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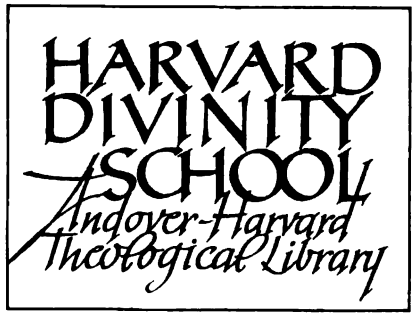
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MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

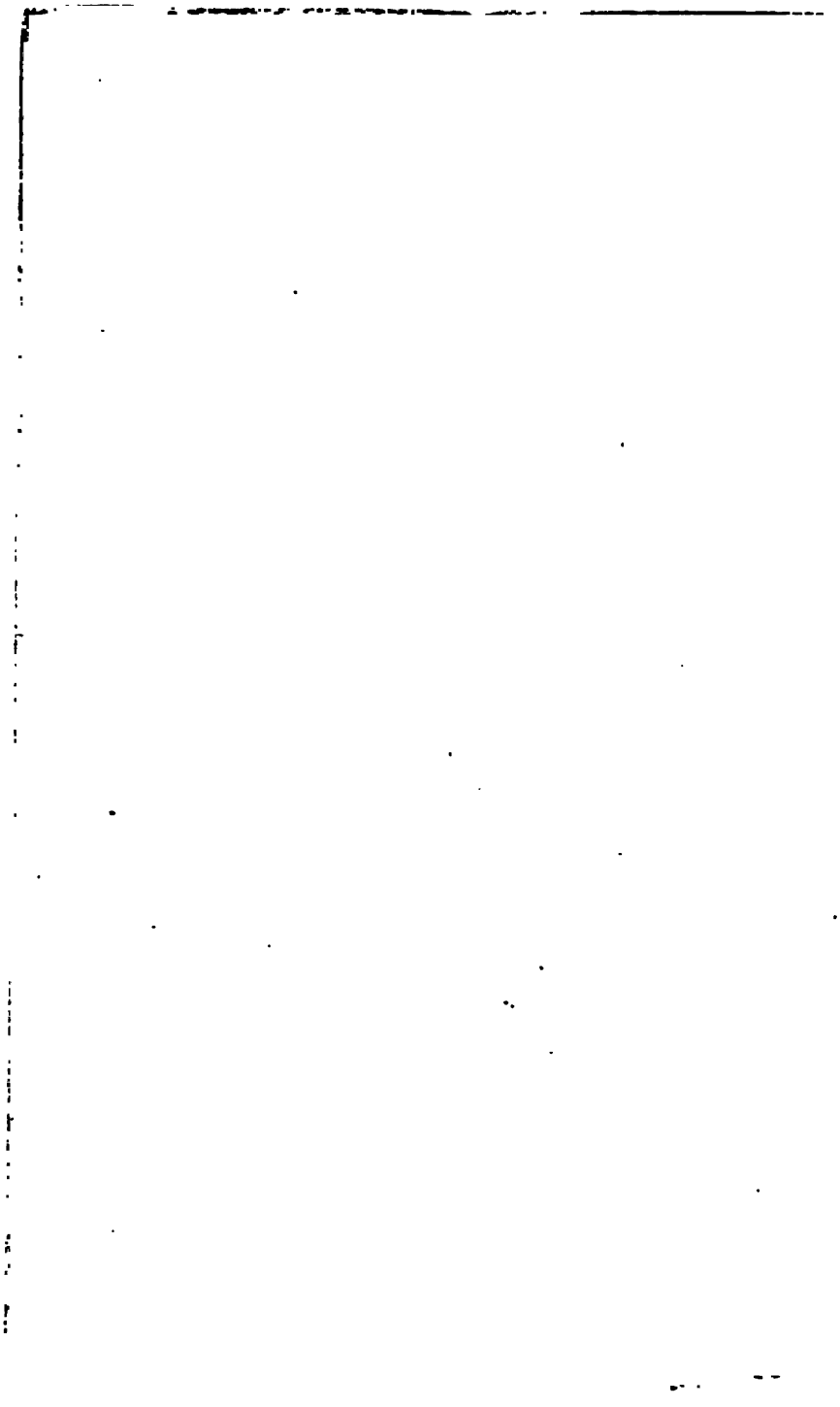
OF

MINNESOTA.

Held in St. Anthony October 24 and 25, 1856.

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA REPUBLICAN.

1856.



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MINUTES

OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA, AT ITS FIRST MEETING, HELD IN ST. ANTHONY, OCTOBER 24 AND 25, 1856.

The Congregational Churches in Minnesota and vicinity having responded favorably to the inquiry directed to them, by the Minnesota Association in regard to the expediency of organizing a Conference of Churches, for mutual intercourse and sympathy and for consultation in respect to the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom throughout this Territory and the world, according to appointment, met in convention through their ministers and delegates, at St. Anthony, on Thursday, Oct. 23, 1856; and being called to order by Rev. C. Seccombe, Rev. Sherman Hall was appointed moderator of the convention, and Rev. George Bent scribe.

Prayer having been offered by the moderator, by request, the responses received by a committee appointed by the Minnesota Association to inquire in respect to similar organizations elsewhere, were then read, consisting of letters from the following individuals: Dr. Dwight, of Maine; Dr. Dimick, Massachusetts; L. S. Hobart, Michigan; Dr. Bacon, Connecticut; Dr. Palmer, New York; Rev. F. Bascom, Illinois; and Rev. Asa Turner, Iowa.

It was then voted that we proceed to organize a conference of churches. After a free expression of opinion by all the members of the convention present in respect to the character of the organization to be formed, brothers Seccombe, Cobb and Stevens were appointed a committee to prepare a constitution and by-laws, including a confession of faith to present to Convention as a basis for action.

After absence, this committee reported a constitution, rules and a confession of faith, which report was accepted, and after free discussion and amendment, the following constitution, by-laws and confession of faith were separately adopted:

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This conference shall be called the General Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This general conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Other members of Association, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 8. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 9. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue till Sabbath evening.

ART. 10. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 11. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 12. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 13. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 14. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 15. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary shall call the members to order, and to the choice of a moderator, who shall then conduct the devotional exercises.

2. The certificates of the delegates shall then be laid upon the table, and the names of members enrolled.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. Next shall follow the election of officers as provided by the constitution, and the appointment of committees.

5. At each meeting of the Conference a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

6. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

7. Every motion on being seconded shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

8. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement or commitment.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the

Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

Art. 4. We believe that the one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

Art. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

Art. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state by voluntarily transgressing the divine command in the article of forbidden fruit.

Art. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that if left to themselves they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

Art. 8. We believe that Christ, the son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Art. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of his spirit draw him.

Art. 10. We believe that those who embrace the gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

Art. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

Art. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead; that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution, according to their respective works; and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

Art. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that

visible believers, with their households only, can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

Rev. William R. Stevens was appointed to preach at 7½ o'clock. Convention then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock and hold a season of devotional exercises previous to the public services.

EVENING SESSION.

At 7 o'clock, P. M., Meeting commenced by a season of devotional exercises—after which Rev. Wm. R. Stevens preached from John 1, 4, "*In him was life, and the life was the light of men.*"

The public services being closed the Conference adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

Friday, Oct., 24, Meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. G. Bent.

The Convention proceeded to the election of officers for the conference, whereupon the following persons were elected:

Rev. SHERMAN HALL, Moderator.
Rev. C. SECCOMBE, Corresponding Secretary.
Rev. C. B. SHELDON, Recording Secretary.

The Moderator leading in prayer, the Convention by that formal act passed into a Conference of Churches; and on motion, Rev. Geo. Bent was appointed scribe.

The names of members of Conference were then enrolled, as follows:

Church of Bell Prairie, Ezra Newton, jr. Minister; E. G. Hicks Del.
" " Sauk Rapids, Sherman Hall, "
" " Anoka, Geo. Bent, "
" " St. Anthony, C. Seccombe, Pastor,
" " Excelsior and Chanhassan, C. B. Sheldon, Minister,
" " Eden Prairie, C. Galpin, "
" " Prescott Wis., H. W. Cobb, " W. J. Copp, Del.
" " River Falls, Wis., Wm. R. Stevens, " Z. N. Powell, "
Rev. R. Hall, Agent, A. H. M. S., Prescott Wis.

Rev. Messrs. Stevens, Copp and Seccombe, were appointed a committee on Resolutions.

Prescott, Wis., was appointed as place of next meeting. Rev. C. B. Sheldon was chosen to preach at opening of next Conference, and Ezra Newton, jr., to preach at Communion service.

The subject of correspondence with other bodies was referred to a committee consisting of Brother's Cobb, Galpin and Bent. Conference then adjourned to 2, P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Having met according to adjournment, Conference invited Rev. J. C. Whitney and Rev. H. M. Nichols members of Min. Presbytery, being present to sit as honorary members.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. R. Hall, after which reports from the Churches were heard intermingled with various devotional exercises.

A brief abstract of said Reports is as follows:

Bell Prairie.—*Ezra Newton, jr.*—Church of 13 members—3 or 4 others indulging hope—Have enjoyed a season of revival during the year—Preaches also at Little Falls and Swan River, 5 and 8 miles below Bell Prairie. Little Falls a growing place—only 3 or 4 professors of religion of all the various denominations—Indians resort here to get supply of intoxicating drinks—Sabbath violation and profanity very common—Congregation 15 to 20—At Swan River 20 to 40.

Anoka.—*G. Bent*—No special religious interest—Increase of resident Ch. membership past year from 7 to 12—Good Congregation on Sabbath—Sabbath School and Prayer Meeting maintained.

St. Anthony.—*C. Seccombe*—No special religious interest to report—Had been led to ask aught we not to adopt a system of working together in a series of meetings—Special prayer and direct labors—Would not such labors result in good?

Eden Prairie.—*C. Galpin*—Encouraging state of things here—Preaches also at Chaska and Carver, in the former place 10 to 15 houses keep liquor for sale.

Prescott.—(Report given by W. I. Copp, Del.) *H. W. Cobb*—But just commenced labors at this point, in place of R. Hall, now agent A. H. M. Society—Subscription of $2,700 secured for erection of house of worship—Now meet in connection with other denominations in school house—Br. Hall mentioned as one of the most encuraging tokens of the field, the interest maintained in the female prayer meeting.

Excelsior and Chanhassan.—*C. B. Sheldon*—Interesting Bible Class at both these points—meetings well attended; evenings as well as on the Sabbath—No marked interest at Excelsior—Rather more at Chanhassan—Increase of profanity and Sabbath violation noticed.

River Falls, Wis.—Br. Stevens being absent, Br. R. Hall reported flourishing church of 30 members—Interesting Sabbath School and Bible class.—Society building parsonage at cost of $600—Have raised $2,700 to build town Academy—Teacher secured, school to commence this winter. No special religious interest.

Sauk Rapids.—*Sherman Hall*—Two years since he entered this field—10 or 12 church members—preparing to erect house of Worship—business and population increasing—no marked religious inter-

est—about to preach also at *St. Cloud* 3 miles below—an increasing and inviting field—several Church Members of various denominations desire to form Church—band of brethren there met every Sabbath to pray and read a sermon—preaches also at another point 10 miles up Sauk River.

Congregational churches have been organized at the following places not represented here: Monticello, Platte River, Princeton, Faribault, Cannon Falls, Winona, Saratoga, Greenwood, Spring Valley, and Northfield.

Br. R. Hall remarked that the churches in the Territory were in the main aided extensively by the A. H. M. Society. There were many hard fields, where only a few would encourage and sustain the missionary in his labors. Still, we should be willing to enter and continue in these important fields, though trials and difficulties abound.

By request, Brother Whitney spoke of his field, in Minneapolis.—A favored spot—among the population some 2 or 3 hundred were professors of religion, of various denominations—no whiskey sold openly and very little drunkenness—20 or 30 about to unite with church—occasionally some had united by profession of faith. Interest manifested in the prayer meeting by the brethren—the great difficulty excessive worldliness—they had had their trials—Felt that the Church should be made a home. Brother Nichols reported also of his field, in Stillwater, population 3000—Attendance at all Protestant churches not over 200. Not more than 40 or 50 professors of religion in town—27 members of Pres. Church, of which 12 only are in town; 12 liquor and gambling saloons—Sabbath often desecrated by the running of mills—Still, their small house of worship was filled on Sabbath.

The Pastor of the place of meeting and the Corresponding Secretary were appointed a committee of arrangements for next meeting.

The Conference then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference having again met public service was dispensed with, in consequence of the weather whereupon the committee on Correspondence reported. Report accepted and being completed, the following delegates were appointed:

To General Association, Iowa, C. Seccombe; Illinois, Wm. R. Stevens; Michigan, E. Newton, jr.; Massachusetts and Connecticut, C. Galpin; New Hampshire, S. Hall; New York, C. B. Sheldon; Oregon, E. Newton, jr.; California, G. Bent; General Convention, Wisconsin, R. Hall; Vermont, G. Bent; General Conference, Michigan, H. W. Cobb; Ohio, C. B. Sheldon; Consociation, Rhode Island, C. Galpin.

Brother Hall was admitted as member of Conference, by vote. Recording Secretary was authorized to give certificate to any member about to attend the meetings of any Conference or Association in correspondence with us.

Constitution and Rules were referred to a committee consisting of the corresponding and recording Secretaries, and Brother R. Hall, for careful revision and presentation to the next meeting; and the same were appointed a committee to secure the printing of the minutes according to their best judgment.

The subject of organizing Minnesota Tract and Sabbath School Societies was referred to Brother Seccombe to report at next meeting.

Brother Newton was appointed to correspond with the American Tract Society, and the Mass. S. S. Society, in respect to sending colporteurs to this Territory.

It was voted that the Churches be requested to send in *full* statistical reports, as to time of their origin, number of members, &c., to the next meeting.

The report of Committee on Resolutions having been received and accepted; The Conference, in committee of the whole, extended and adopted them as follows:

Resolved, That in organizing this first Conference of Congregational Churches in this Territory, we desire deeply to feel the solemn responsibility necessarily connected with such foundation work, and in view of such responsibility we would earnestly implore that wisdom which comes from above.

Resolved, That we regard it a paramount duty of ministers and churches to set their faces as a flint against any and every form of sin by whomsoever committed, and to declare God's truth on every subject on which such truth has been revealed, all the world to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Resolved, That we believe the chief reason of the present corrupt state of politics in our own country is to be found in the remissness of ministers of Christ in the duty of applying the principles of the Gospel to political subjects.

Resolved, That we regard the institution of American Slavery as evil and only evil, and that continually—a crime that would disgrace a heathen nation, and for a nation like ours too dark to be described by any words in the language of a civilized people.

Resolved, That we sympathize with suffering Kansas as we would with a murdered brother.

Resolved, That we regard the present crisis in the history of our country as one of the most fearful that has ever arisen, involving as it does an attack upon the deepest religious feelings and principles of a christian people as well as the temporal welfare of the nation.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Conference, the crime of slaveholding should be excluded from all christian organizations, and that our bevevolent societies ought to take bold, open and decided grounds against every form of oppression, so that by tracts, books, and missionary labors, the mighty powers of these bodies shall bear with full force against this crushing sin of our country.

Resolved, That in view of the increase of intemperance in this Territory we would urge upon each other and upon our churches the importance of unremitting effort against this great and destructive evil.

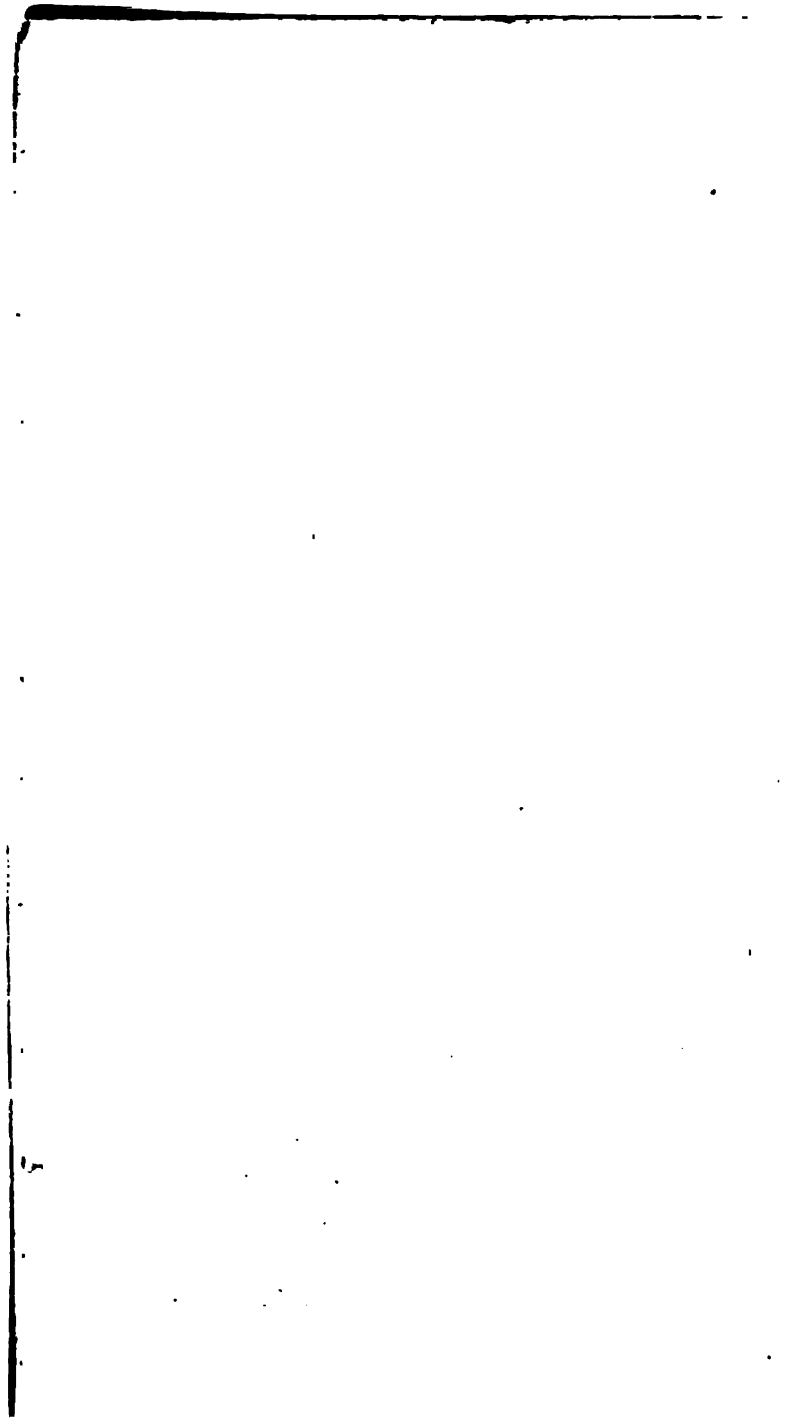
The scribe was requested to send report of this Conference to Congregational Herald and Independent for publication.

The meeting of Conference was then closed with prayer by Brother Seccombe, to meet at Prescott, Wis., on the 2d Thursday of October next, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

GEO. BENT, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

The Congregational Association of Minnesota, a strictly clerical body, was organized July 29th, 1853. Its next annual meeting will be held on the 4th Thursday of April, at 7 o'clock P. M., at River Falls, Wisconsin. [Com.



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1857

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL
Congregational Conference.

OF

MINNESOTA.

AT THEIR SECOND ANNUAL MEETING,

IN

PRESCOTT, WIS.,

OCTOBER 8—11, 1857.

CHARLES E. YOUNG,
NEWSPAPER, BOOK, JOB AND ORNAMENMAL PRINTER, TRANSCRIPT OFFICE.
PRESCOTT, WIS.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, will be held in Farribault, commencing the second Thursday of October next, at 7 o'clock A. M.

The next annual meeting of the Congregational Association of Minnesota will be held at Excelsior, on the second Thursday of May next, at 7 o'clock A. M.

MINUTES.

The General Congregational Conference of Minnesota held its second annual meeting with the Congregational church of Prescott, Wis., commencing Thursday, Oct. 8, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Chas. B. Sheldon, of Excelsior, from 2 Cor. 4 : 7.

Theme—The weakness of the instrumentality employed in preaching the gospel, as contrasted with its great and beneficent results, made to redound to the greater glory of God.

The certificates of delegates were called for, and the following members were enrolled:—

Church of Little Falls,—Rev. Ezra Newton, Jr.
" " Sauk Rapids—Rev. Sherman Hall.
" " Anoka—Rev. Geo. Bent.
" " St. Anthony—Rev. Chas Secombe.
" " Excelsior—Rev. Chas. B. Sheldon,—E. Snell, Del.
" " Eden Prairie—Rev. Chas. Galpin.
" " Prescott, Wis.,—O. T. Maxson,—Del.
" " River Falls, Wis.—Rev. Wm. R. Stevens, Mason Stone,—Del.
" " Farribault,—Rev. L. Armsby.
" " Waubashaw—Rev. S. L. Hillier.
" " Zumbrota—Rev. Chas. Shedd.
" " Clinton—Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " Spring Valley—Rev. Ira Tracy.
" " Northfield—Rev. J. S. Rounce.
" " Cannon Falls—Rev. J. R. Barnes.
Rev Geo. Spaulding—Marine Mills, Minnesota.
" R. Hall, Agent A. H. M. S., Point Douglas, Min.
" E. G. Smith, Delegate from Gen. Association of Ill.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. Isaac Willey, Goffstown, New Hampshire.
" H. H. Morgan, Centerville, Minnesota.
Rev. David Andrews, Red Wing, Minnesota.
" T. B. Rogers, Prescott, Wis.
" Wm. Hamilton, " "
" J. L. Seymour, Ohio.

Conference made choice of Rev. L. Armsby, for moderator, who then led the meeting in prayer.

Rev. R. Hall was chosen scribe.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER NINTH.

Met at 9 o'clock A. M. Moderator in the chair.—Prayer was offered by Bro. Tracy.

The minutes of last evening were read and approved and the roll called.

Conference then listened to the reading of the Constitution and By-Laws.

On motion the moderator appointed a Committee of Arrangements and a Committee on Resolutions.

Committee of Arrangements.—Bros. Maxson, Sheldon and Stevens.

Committee on Resolutions.—Bros. Newton, Bent and Seccombe.

Voted, that the next meeting of Conference be held at Farribault.

Voted, that Rev. Wm. R. Stevens be the first preacher, and Rev. Geo. Bent second preacher for next year.

Committee of Arrangements reported, and report adopted.

The following additional committees were then appointed:

On Finance and Reports—Bros. Maxson, Seccombe and Sheldon.

On Statistics in regard to the Churches—Bro. Seccombe.

To nominate Delegates to other bodies—Bros. Hall, Galpin and Barnes.

To confer with a committee which was appointed by the General Association at its last meeting, at River Falls, on the subject of Hymn Books—Bros. Shedd, Newton and Snell.

On District Conferences—Bros. Hall, Seccombe and Galpin.

Voted, that the various committees appointed to-day report to-morrow morning.

Delegates to other bodies reported. Most of them had written to the various bodies assigned to them last year, but sufficient time had not elapsed for replies to be received.

Bro. Seccombe presented a communication from Rev. Isaac P. Langworthy, Corresponding Secretary American Congregational Union, from which it appears that the Union has undertaken the work of aiding feeble Congregational Churches, East, West, North and South, in erecting houses of worship; that they mean to prosecute this work vigorously, economically, perseveringly, until this great want is met.—They wish the co-operation of all our churches, *large* and *small*. "The East will give; the West, where most will be expended, will not refrain from giving." Copies of the Year Book for 1858, as many as pastors desire for distribution among their people, will be sent gratuitously to those pastors who will take up a collection for the Union, during the first four months of the year.

Bro. E. G. Smith, Delegate from the General As-

sociation of Illinois, addressed the Conference, expressing the deep interest with which the Congregational churches of Illinois had watched the growth of sister Congregational churches in Minnesota, and especially their fidelity to the great principles of human freedom. He reported the condition of the body of churches represented by him as one of general prosperity and growth, and that not a few of them had been blessed with revivals the past year.

Rev. Isaac Willey remarked, in regard to the religious interests of New Hampshire, that the past year had been distinguished somewhat by the reviving influences of God's spirit. There had been some progress, notwithstanding the diminution by emigration. Many churches, after observing a day of fasting and prayer, appointed visiting committees to canvass the parish, and have religious conversation in every family. This was followed by public meetings. These efforts were attended with a blessing, and are renewed again this year.

Rev. D. Andrews, recently from Tiverton, R. I., reported the Congregational churches of Rhode Island generally prosperous, particularly in the cities; Congregationalism somewhat of an exotic in the State.

Bro. Rogers reported two Baptist Associations in Minnesota, one of them numbering about twenty churches. Few of the churches are yet self-supporting. The denomination have just laid the foundation of a University at Hastings, under favorable auspices.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 2 o'clock. Spent the hour to 3 o'clock in social prayer and conference.

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At 3 o'clock a sermon was preached by Rev. Chas. Shedd, from Heb. 12:1. Theme—The christian race and the motives to run it with patience.

After sermon, the Corresponding Secretary presented the Annual Report on the state of religion within the limits of conference. Report accepted.

Also, according to appointment at last annual meeting, Bro. Seccombe presented a report on the subject of organizing Tract and Sabbath School Societies for Minnesota.

These reports are both given at length in the Appendix.

Bro. Newton reported that, according to instructions, he had written to the American Tract Society in regard to sending colporteurs to the territory, and also to the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society, but had received no reply. He remarked feelingly upon the great need of colportage among the lumbermen of the upper Mississippi.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Met at 7 o'clock, Sermon by Rev. Isaac Willey, from Luke 22:32. Theme—The duty of reclaimed back-sliders to strengthen their brethren; and their qualifications for this work.

The committee to whom the Constitution and Rules were referred last year for revision, reported sundry amendments, which were adopted, as follows:

Article first to read:— This conference shall be called the General *Congregational* Conference of Minnesota.

After Article 6, the following new article: A Treas-

urer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

Article 11, (now Art. 12) to read: At each meeting of conference a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed *for the succeeding meeting*, and all subjects, &c.

Article 2 of the By-Laws to read: *After the appointment of a Scribe*, the certificates of the delegates shall be laid, &c.

Bro. Spaulding, being unable to remain through the session, was invited to make report of his present field of labor at Marine Mills.

Voted, that, instead of the sermon appointed by the committee of arrangements for 2 o'clock to-morrow, reports from the churches be heard.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER TENTH.

Met at 8 1-2 A. M. Moderator in the chair. Prayer by Bro. Barnes. Minutes of yesterday read and approved, and the roll called.

Communications were received from Bro. Rogers, pastor of the Baptist church, and Bro. Hamilton, of the Methodist, tendering the use of their pulpits to-morrow to the ministers of the conference. Referred to the committee of arrangements.

Voted, that each church be requested to send not less than $3 00 to the Treasurer, to defray the expense of publishing the minutes, and the abler churches more.

Voted, that the number of copies of the minutes to be published be left to the discretion of the financial committee.

Committee on Hymn Books reported that they had

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not had sufficient opportunity to examine different books, and were not prepared to express their preference for any one.

Voted, that the subject be referred back to the same committee, and that they be instructed, after further consultation with the committee from the Association, next spring to recommend to the churches such book as they deem the best.

Committee on Delegates to other bodies reported. Report adopted on condition that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to issue certificates authorizing brethren to act as delegates to any body in correspondence with us to which it may be most convenient for them to go. The report was as follows:

To General Ass. Illinois, Rev. George Bent.
" " " Iowa, Rev. Ira Tracy.
" " " Mass., Rev. George Spaulding.
" " " New Hampshire, Rev. L. Armsby.
" " " Connecticut, Rev. Chas. Seccombe.
" " " New York, Rev. William R. Stevens
" " " Oregon, Rev. E. Newton, Jr.
" " " California, Rev. R. Hall.
" " Conv. Wisconsin, Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " " Vermont, Rev. Charles B. Sheldon.
" " Conf. Michigan, Rev. Charles Galpin.
" " " Ohio, Rev. C. B. Sheldon.
" " " Maine, Rev. Charles Shedd.
" Consociation, R. I., Rev. J. R. Barnes.

Committee on Resolutions reported. After discussion and some verbal amendments the report was unanimously adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That we most cordially approve the action of the American Home Missionary Society, in relation to aiding slave-holding churches.

Resolved, That we believe the action of the Am. Tract Society, at their last annual meeting, in regard to issuing publications upon the moral evils connected with American slavery, a step in the right direction; and we regard the recent action of its officers in refusing to carry out the wishes of the Society, as a dereliction of duty, involving in its nature a servile submission of the principles of truth and righteousness, to one of the darkest crimes that deface the page of history.

Resolved, In view of the fact that the Executive, Legislative and Judicial departments of the United States Government are greatly controlled by the slave power, it becomes every minister of the gospel, in *his pulpit*, faithfully to plead the cause of the oppressed, and to labor for the destruction of that system of bondage which is the foster mother of all iniquity, and now threatens the ruin of our fair republic.

Resolved, That our hearty sympathies are still with the struggling free-state men of Kansas, and our prayer is, that God may yet smile upon their efforts to gain the priceless boon of freedom for that fair portion of our country.

In addition to the above *resolutions* reported by the committee, the following was also adopted:

This conference would call the attention of the churches and of individual christians to the mighty results dependent upon the sacred observance of the Holy Sabbath, especially on our great highways.—If we expect to prosper as christians, the law of God must be held in honor; and if our rivers and highways are ever to have rest on the sabbath, where shall it begin if not with the house of God? We rejoice in the belief that there are so many thousands, who, restrained and led by the Holy Spirit, endeavor secretly to observe holy time, both at home and abroad. Shall not the time be when from the source to the mouth of these arteries of our country not a professed disciple of Jesus shall be found traveling either for business or pleasure on the Sabbath?—when at least, in respect to *christians*, these thoroughfares shall have *rest!* What an exhibition of christian principle, to know that for thousands of miles—*week* by *week*—every traveling christian disembarked before the Sabbath, and by his self-denial and obedience to the law of God, became a preacher of righteousness, both to the traveling and the resident population. The toiling thousands on our waters, the population of our river towns, the purity of our churches, personal piety, and the honor of God, all combine in the demand, that

on our great highways the Sabbath be kept inviolate. In this, God expects that his people shall lead the way; and we exhort that from no temporal expedients the honor of God be tarnished, and his glory trampled in the dust in the violation of the holy Sabbath by *any* of his own people.

As regards Intemperance, also we urge that unremitting efforts be made for its entire suppression; striking as it does, at the root of all morality, virtue and religion, destroying our youths and fellow citizens in their bodies and souls, justice and a right regard for their immortal interests demand that no legitimate means be left untried to secure its entire abatement, and that our rulers shall be a *terror* to all evil doers, who for gain or other motives destroy their fellow men.

At 11 o'clock a sermon was preached by Rev. Wm. R. Stevens, from I John, 1 : 7.

Theme.—The true idea of fellowship with God, and the conditions of enjoying it. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at half past one o'clock. Moderator in the chair. Prayer was offered by Brother E. G. Smith, of Illinois.

Voted that Bros. Galpin, Newton and Secombe, be a committee to draft constitutions for Minnesota Tract and Sunday School Societies.

On motion, voted to adjourn for the purpose of giving opportunity to organize a Tract and Sabbath School society, distinct entirely from the conference.

Conference re-assembled after adjournment. After prayer the remainder of the session, 'till 5 o'clock, was spent in listening to reports of ministers and delegates, concerning the state of religion and morals in the vicinity of the various churches represented in conference.

The committee of arrangements reported the order of exercises for to-morrow as follows:

In the Methodist Church, preaching at 10 1-2 A. M. by Rev. J. L. Seymour; at 7, P. M. by Rev. O. A. Thomas.

In the Baptist Church, at 10 1-2 A. M. by Rev. Geo. Bent; at 2 P. M. by Rev. J. R. Barnes.

In the Congregational Church, at 10 1-2 A. M. by Rev. Ezra Newton, Jr.; at 2 P. M. the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered by Rev. E. G. Smith and Rev. D. Andrews. At 7 P. M. preaching by Rev. L. Armsby. Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Met at 7 o'clock. Preaching by Bro. Morgan, from Heb. 11 : 4.

Theme—The posthumous life of the christian.

After preaching the unfinished business of the morning was resumed.

Committee on District Conferences reported, recommending to the churches the organization of county conferences, where the churches of single counties, or of two or more counties immediately contiguous, shall be represented.

Committee on Statistics reported a form of schedule and regulations. Report adopted. See appendix.

The following new officers required by the constitution as amended were then elected.

Treasurer of the Conference—O. T. Maxon, M. D. Auditor—Ebenezer Snell, M. D.

Committee of Arrangements, for next year—Bros. L. Armsby, J. R. Barnes, and I. Tracy.

Bro. C. Seccombe was elected Statistical Secretary of the Conference.

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Voted, that the Constitutions of the Tract and Sabbath School societies, be printed in the appendix of the minutes.

Voted, that the thanks of the Conference be presented to the people of Prescott, for their generous and kind hospitalities on this occasion.

The minutes for the day having been read and approved, Conference adjourned.

R. HALL, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This general conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate.—Other members of Association, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 8. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 9. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 10. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue till Sabbath evening.

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ART. 11. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 12. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 13 This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 14. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 15. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 16. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary shall call the members to order, and to the choice of a moderator, who shall then conduct the devotional exercises.

2. After the appointment of a scribe the certificates of the delegates shall be laid on the table, and the names of members enrolled.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. Next shall follow the election of officers as provided by the constitution, and the appointment of committees.

5. At each meeting of the Conference a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

6. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

7. Every motion on being seconded shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

8. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement or commitment.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ARTICLE I. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that the one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state by voluntarily transgressing the divine command in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that if left to themselves they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient attonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of his spirit draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to

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the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution, according to their respective works; and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

REPORT,

ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

DEAR BRETHREN:—In fulfilment of my duty as Corresponding Secretary, to collect information and present a report, upon the state of religion, within the bounds of our Conference, I will first speak of the number of churches and ministers. At the time when this Conference was organized, one year ago, there existed 22 Congregational churches, within the bounds of the organization. This includes the churches at this place and River Falls—which, though not in Minnesota, are united with the Conference.

These churches are located at the following places:—Anoka, Belle Prairie, Cannon Falls, Cottenwood Creek, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Faribault, Greenville, Lake City, Le Seur, Monticello, Northfield, Platte River, Prescott, Princeton, River Falls, St. Anthony, Saratoga, Sauk Rapids, South Bend, Spring Valley, and Winona. Since that time there have been organized 11 more churches, which are located at the following places:—Austin, Clinton, East Prairie, Hudson, Wis., Little Falls, Mapleton, Minneapolis, Rochester, Wabashaw. Wastedo, and Zumbrota. It is expected also, that churches will be organized soon, at Glencoe, Greenville, Lenora, Marine, Owatonna, and St. Cloud.

As it respects the state of religion, I am happy to report, that there have been three active revivals—one at Excelsior, one at Prescott, and one at River Falls. Some of these were attended with great power, and with such results for good, as, we hope and trust, will endure throughout eternal ages. As it respects other portions of the field, covered by this conference, there have been some additions to the churches by profession, as well as many by letter; and, for aught I know to the contrary, there may have been more or less of the revival spirit; but whether this be so, or to what extent, I am not informed.—The same obstacles to the prosperity of pure and undefiled religion which are found elsewhere, are found also here; such as the love of money, and the love of pleasure. And they call for a spirit of deep piety and single-hearted devotion in the ministry, and for most earnest prayer and watchfulness on the part of all God's people. One of the greatest causes for the decline of vital piety is to be found in the neglect of prayer. First, the weekly church prayer-meeting is neglected—not all at once, but gradually; next, family prayer, and finally, the closet. Let us then, while we would not be unthankful for the past, nor distrustful for the future, carefully inquire wherein we have wandered, and return to the great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.

C. Seccombe, Cor. Sec.

REPORT

In reference to the organization of State Tract and S. S. Societies.

No christian at the present day, we should suppose, could well question the propriety and importance of the various benevolent societies that have been organized for the amelioration and salvation of man. No christian can claim exemption from some share in the labor of such a work, without denying the authority of that commission which Christ gave his disciples when he left the world. Much less can any church, and still less the christians of any state, claim such exemption. The members of a church and the christians of a state may, however, engage in such labor for some time, before organizing independent societies of their own. The specific question before us is,—how early should such organizations take place; or, more especially still, has the time come in Minnesota?

In reply to that question, your committee will state some reasons why he believes the time has come for the organization of, at least, two

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societies—a Tract Society, and a Sabbath School Society in Minnesota.

First—the inhabitants of Minnesota are far removed from the head quarters of any great Tract or S. S. Society, and their wants cannot, therefore, be so well or so promptly met as by societies of their own. We need, for instance, at the present time, a colporteur to spend the whole or a part of every winter, among the lumbermen in the woods. A more important field of labor can scarcely be found in any part of the country; and yet, it is not cultivated by the agents of existing societies.

We need depositories of tract and S. S. Books in the State—a desideratum which we understand cannot be realized without societies of our own.

Another weighty reason consists in the desirableness of being able to determine for ourselves the nature of the tracts and books which our own contributions shall aid in circulating. It is well known that the great Union Tract and S. S. societies of the nation persist in excluding from their literature all pointed reproof of one of the greatest sins of this or any other age. In so doing, they are virtually trampling God's authority under foot; they are taking a position which, in its nature, is death to all christian principle and vital godliness; they are 'making the heart of the righteous sad, and strengthening the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way.' In short, in an age and upon a theme that Zion should cry aloud and spare not, they are like 'dumb dogs that cannot bark.'

By having societies of our own, we can see to it that the crime of slavery shall not be allowed to go unrebuked. So far as our means will allow, we can have distributed such books and tracts as we would wish; so that no sin shall be ignored or apologized for.

By having such societies we shall also have the means of disposing to advantage of such books and tracts as may be donated to us. Your committee has himself had the offer of S. S Libraries, provided he could dispose of them to advantage. But with such gifts there is always some attendant expense, if nothing more than the cost of transportation; and there needs to be some means of meeting such expense. For a single library of the description he has paid out $7,25, for which he has received as yet, but $1,25. He also received, at one time, a request from the superintendent of a New England S. S., that he would become a dispenser of the avails of their collections, which would amount to one or two hundred dollars per annum. Had there been at that time a S. S. Society in the Territory, he would have known what to have done with such a request, which, under the circumstances, he was obliged to decline.

But the most weighty reason for the organization of such societies is the development of our own resources. A church needs to be educated in the practice of benevolence, as much so as an individual.—Like a child, it should be trained up in the way it should go; for it

will be very apt to go in the way it is trained up, and when it is old it will not easily depart from it. The new churches of the west, especially, should be reared to habits of benevolence; not only because they owe their own existence to christian benevolence, but because they are soon to become the wealthiest churches of the land. Such training, with the church, as with a child, must begin with its own beginning, must grow with its growth, and strengthen with its strength. For many years, the *habit* of giving, will be of far more importance than the amount given. Let that habit be once formed, and the enterprizes of benevolence be properly understood and appreciated, and the amount will take care of itself. The fact of having societies of our own, to which the contributions of our own churches are directly sent, will do much to increase the interest of our churches in the objects themselves. The yearly reports, too, from those societies, will greatly enhance that interest, and cause it to augment from year to year.

Thus, the Congregational churches of Minnesota, will rapidly become Missionary churches in the best of all voices—the active; for the declaration of Christ, was:—"It is more blessed to give than to receive." They will come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty, armed and equipped; not with the ephemeral sentimentalism of a momentary impulse, but with the undying energies of settled principle.

Is it thought that the present is an inauspicious time to begin such a work, in consequence of the extreme financial distress of the nation? I answer, it would be if we were embarking in a three or six months' enterprise; but we are initiating plans for future ages: and we should think that man a poor sailor, who, having a voyage of years before him, should not dare to embark till he saw a cloudless sky.

As it respects the nature of the societies to be organized, my own opinion is decidedly adverse to any union that shall fetter the word of truth. When that phrase—'*agreeable to all evangelical christians*'—comes to be so interpreted as to forbid speaking against any sin of which any professedly evangelical christian shall be found guilty, it seems to me high time to drop such a phrase, and adopt for our motto—'agreeable to *God*.'

Finally, I cannot sufficiently express the deep conviction of my own mind, respecting the importance of an early organization of such societies, except through the medium of a long discourse; but I will not trespass upon your time by any longer report, hoping that the impressions of my own heart, if correct, are but an index of the impressions of all; and that some measures will be immediately taken, with a view to such an end.

All which is respectfully submitted. C. SECCOMBE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

FORM OF SCHEDULE FOR THE REPORT OF EACH CHURCH.

Register for 185 . Condition May 1st., 185 . Progress for one year previous.

CHURCH	ORGANIZED.	MINISTER.	BEGUN HERE.	SALARY.	AVERAGE.		MEMBERS.			ADDITIONS.				REMOVALS.				BAPTISM.		Benevolent Contributions.
					S. S. & B. Class.	Cong.	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Absent.	Profess.	Letter.	Total.	Death.	Exc.	Letter.	Total.	Adult.	Infant.	

NOTE.—Insert a cypher wherever no number belongs, otherwise the sum is considered defective. The "absent" are included among the "total."

REMARKS.

FORM OF SCHEDULE FOR THE REPORT OF EACH MINISTER.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	OCCUPA'N,	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.

Statistical Regulations.

1. The statistical year shall begin the first of May, annually—it being considered the duty of every church and minister, at that date, to furnish a Report to the Statistical Secretary.

2. The Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by the conference who shall be *ex-officio*, a member of the body, and whose duty it shall be, by circulars, letters, and other measures, (at the body's expense,) to solicit and secure, full and accurate statistics of all the churches and ministers within the State; and to arrange and complete them for the publishing committee, with a general summary, to be presented to the conference, at its annual meeting.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL TRACT SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called—The Evangelical Tract Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be the distribution of religious Tracts and Books—first in our own Territory, and then in other parts of our land and the world.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society, shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the society, and in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the society, and to conduct its correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the society, including the contributions of the churches, paying out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors, carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Tracts and Books, donating or selling the same, according to the

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directions of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9. The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursement of the funds, and have the general management of all the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at the same place, and at some time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds. Any person may become a life member by the payment of $20 00. For the first year, all members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of this Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by two-thirds of the members present.

The officers of the Society are—

REV J. R. BARNES, President.
" E. NEWTON, JR., } Vice-Presidents.
" IRA TRACY, }
" CHARLES SECCOMBE, Secretary.
" L. ARMSBY, Treasurer.
" C. GALPIN, }
" CHARLES SHEDD, } Auditors.
E. SNELL, M. D., }
JAS. M. BREWER, St. Anthony, Depositary.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY

OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called—The Evangelical Sabbath School Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be, first, to encourage and multiply the organization of Sabbath Schools in our own Territory, by furnishing the same with Libraries, and secondly, to do the same work for other parts of our land.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, two

Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Society, and in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the Society, and to conduct its correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the Society, including the contributions of the churches, paying out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors, carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Books, donating or selling the same, according to the direction of Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9. The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursements of the funds, and have the general management of the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at some place and at the same time during the session of the General Conference.

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ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended, at any annual meeting, by two-thirds of the members present.

The officers of this Society are—

REV. L. ARMSBY, President.
" CHAS. SHEDD, } Vice-Presidents.
" WM. R. STEVENS, }
" C. B. SHELDON, Secretary.
MR. SHERMAN HALE, Cannon Falls, Treasurer.
REV. J. PECKHAM, C. Falls, }
MR. OLIN, Northfield, } Auditors.
DR. PORTER, Waterford, }
AUSTIN WILEY, Northfield, Depositary.

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1858

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL

CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF

MINNESOTA,

At Its Third Annual Meeting

IN

FARIBAULT, MINN.,

OCTOBER 14—17. 1858.

FARIBAULT, MINN.
REPUBLICAN BOOK AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

1858.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, will be held at Winona, commencing at 7 o'clock P. M., on the second Thursday of October, A. D. 1859.

The next Annual Meeting of the Congregational Association of Minnesota will be held at Hudson, Wis., commencing at 7 o'clock P. M. on the ~~second~~ first Thursday of ~~May~~ June, A. D. 1859.

MINUTES.

The General Congregational Conference of Minnesota held its third annual meeting with the Evangelical Congregational Church of Faribault, commencing Thursday October 14th at 7 o'clock P. M. and was opened by a sermon from Rev. Richard Hall, Agent A. H. M. S. from Rev. 11 : 15.

Rev. David Andrews was then chosen Moderator and led the meeting in prayer.

Bro. J. C. Beekman was chosen Scribe.

The certificates of delegates were then called for and the following members were enrolled at that time and during the progress of the meeting:

Church of Anoka,—John S. Cady. Delegate.
" " Cannon City—B. F. Haviland, Pastor—Thos. Bolles, Del.
" " Clinton Falls—Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " Excelsior—Rev. Chas. B Sheldon—Enos Day, Del.
" " Faribault—Rev. Lauren Arnaby—Rodney A. Mott, Del.
" " Minneapolis—A. R. Hartwell, Del.
" " Monticello—J. C. Beekman, Del.
" " Northfield—Rev. J. S. Rounce—Austin Willey, Del.
" " Prescott, Wis.—Wm S. Copp, Del.
" " Rochester—Rev. E. Clark.
" " St Anthony—Rev. Charles Seccombe.
" " Wastedo—Rev. J. R. Barnes.
" " Winona—Rev. David Burt—Dea. H. L. Nichols, Del.
" " Zumbrota—Rev. David Andrews.
Rev. R. Hall, Agent A. H. M. S.
Rev. Charles Galpin—Excelsior.

HONORAY MEMBERS.

Rev. Mr, Hazen, Faribault, Minn.
Rev. J. W. White, " "
Mr. E. O. Burnham of Wilton, Licentiate, was also present.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER FIFTEENTH.

Met at 9 o'clock A. M. Moderator in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Hall.

The minutes of last evening were read and approved.

In compliance with the invitation of Rev. David Burt, voted that the next meeting of Conference be held at Winona.

Voted that Rev. L. Armsby be the first preacher and Rev. Chas. Seccombe the second preacher for next year.

Sylvester J. Smith of Winona was elected Treasurer and Horace L. Nichols Auditor.

Voted that the statistical regulations adopted last year be appended to the present By-Laws and that the following article be inserted in the Constitution, Viz:

"A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot to continue in office three years."

The report of the Treasurer was then presented and accepted.

Bros. Armsby, Clark and Mott were appointed a committee, to which was referred the Treasurers report and also the question of publishing minutes of the present meeting.

Rev. Chas. Seccombe was then elected Statistical Secretary.

The following committees were then appointed:

On Arrangements for next meeting—Bros. Burt, Clark and Seccombe.

On Resolutions.—Bros. Seccombe, Armsby and Burt.

On Correspondence with other bodies.—Bros. Sheldon, Clark and Barnes.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters from corresponding bodies in Vermont, Maine, Michigan and Iowa.

Rev. R. Hall reported his attendance as delegate at the General Convention of Wisconsin, and added statements in regard to the Churches of Minnesota.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing and prayer, the Corresponding Secretary presented a report of the state of religion within the bounds of the Conference, and also a statistical report showing an encouraging increase in the membership and number of the Churches.

The rest of the afternoon was occupied in listening to the reports from the Pastors and Delegates on the state of religion in their several churches. Accounts were given of revivals enjoyed during the year at Anoka, Cannon City, Northfield and St. Anthony; also of gratifying temperance reforms at Rochester and Wabashaw.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met for public worship at 7½ o'clock and a sermon was preached by Rev. E. Clark from Prov. 8 : 36 last clause.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER SIXTEENTH.

Conference met at 9 o'clock A. M. and was opened by devotional exercises.

Minutes were read and approved.

Report of Committee on Treasurer's report was presented and adopted.

Voted that the subject of the present indebtedness of the Conference be referred to a committee consisting of Bros. Armsby, Clark, Mott and Seccombe.

Voted that Bros. Armsby, Mott and Barnes be a committee on publishing the minutes of the present meeting.

The Committee on Resolutions reported and the resolutions which they proposed were adopted, each resolution being taken up and acted upon in order.

The resolutions were as follows:

Resolved, That we view the present position of the Am. Tract Society at *New York* as humiliating to the last degree; and as contributing to the entire extent of its influence to the creation of Infidels rather than of Christians!

Resolved, That in view of such position, we would recommend to all the Congregational Churches of Minnesota, that they forward no more monies to that Society until it is willing to declare the whole counsel of God on the subject of American Slavery.

Resolved, That in view of Christ's dying command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," it is the duty of each individual church, from the moment of its organization, to become a missionary church in the active sense.

Resolved, That upon the full supply of these United States with gospel institutions is dependent, not simply the welfare of our own country, but the salvation of the world to a degree that can scarcely be over estimated.

Resolved, That while the churches of the East are setting a noble example of christian activity, and have already wrought wonders, considering the smallness of their numbers, the churches of the mighty West, as a body, have scarcely opened their eyes to the great work.

Resolved, That the greatest obstacle to the efficiency of the Church in this work is the want of a suitable *education*; and that we therefore earnestly recommend to all the Congregational Churches of this State, that they at once enter upon some systematic plan of taking up collections for objects of benevolence.

Resolved, That we particularly recommend to their consideration, the State Tract and Sabbath School Societies that hold their anniversaries in connection with this Conference; and that we recommend the appointment of a committee to confer with the committee appointed by our Iowa brethren in reference to such State Societies.

Bros. Seccombe and Morgan were appointed a committee in accordance with the last resolution.

The Committe on correspondence, with other bodies, presented their report, which was adopted, recommending the appointment of delegates as follows:

To General	Ass.	Illinois,	Rev. J. S. Rounce.
"	"	"	Iowa, Rev. Chas. Seccombe.
"	"	"	Massachusetts, Rev. E. Clark.
"	"	"	New Hampshire, Rev. L. Armsby.
"	"	"	Connecticut, Rev. J. R Barnes.
"	"	"	New York, Rev. David Burt.
"	"	"	Oregon, Rev. O. A. Thomas
"	"	"	California, Rev. R. Hall.
"	"	"	Kansas, Rev. J. C. Burbank.
"	"	Conv.	Wisconsin, Rev. Chas. Shedd.
"	"	"	Vermont, Rev. Ira Tracy.
"	"	Conf.	Michigan, Rev. Chas. Galpin,
"	"	"	Ohio, Rev. Chas. B. Sheldon.
"	"	"	Maine, Rev. Wm. R. Stevens.
"	Consociation,		Rhode Island, Rev. David Andrews.

Conference also voted in accordance with the recommendation of the above committee, that the Corresponding Secretary issue certificates to such of the brethren as can make it convenient to be present at other bodies as delegates.

Bros. Willey, Burt and Seccombe, were appointed a committee on the subject of establishing a religious Press in the State.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Moderator being absent Rev. David Burt took the chair.

Rev. C. B. Sheldon in behalf of a committee appointed by the Congregational Association presented a report respecting the college at Excelsior, asking that the Conference assume the place at present occupied by Association.

The subject was referred to a committee consisting of Bros. Seccombe, Armsby and Willey, to report during the session.

The committee on religious press reported, urging the importance of the establishment of a religious press and submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the early establishment of a religious paper in this State, is indispensable to our proper moral and religious progress; and we earnestly hope that the means and the requisite union among christians of the several denominations, may soon justify the introduction of this powerful instrumentality of the Gospel into our rising State.

The report of the committee on the college at Excelsior was now received and accepted and Bros. Armsby, Barnes, and Andrews were appointed a committee to consider the whole subject and report at the next meeting of conference.

The Conference here gave way for the annual meetings of the Evangelical Tract Society and the Evangelical Sabbath School Society of Minnesota and adjourned until evening.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met for public worship at 7½ o'clock. Rev. Chas. Seccombe preached from Isa. 64 : 6 "We all do fade as a leaf."

After public service, the Conference passed a vote of thanks to the Society and the Choir for the use of the house and for the singing with which they had been favored; and to the people of Faribault for their hospitable entertainment.

The subject of observing a day of fasting and prayer was then discussed and the Conference passed the following preamble and resolution.

The members of this Conference feeling an earnest desire that our new and rising State should be blessed with revivals of religion, similar to those which have of late been attended with such hallowed influences upon communities at the East and elsewhere, in our country, do therefore pass the subjoined resolution:

Resolved, That the Conference recommend to the several churches connected with this body, that they observe the last day of the present year as a day of fasting and prayer, and in such public exercises as by the blessing of God may be fitted to secure this result; and that, whenever practicable, the Churches invite such other churches of other denominations as may be in their neighborhood to unite with them in seeking the favor of the Lord.

It is further recommended that the members of the Conference, so far as they can do so, procure a copy of this resolution or a notice of the proposed meeting to be inserted in the several newspapers that are published in their vicinity.

The following individuals were designated as preachers for the Sabbath;

Rev. J. R. Barnes to preach to the Baptist Congregation at 10½ o'clock, A. M.

Rev. David Burt to preach in the Congregational Church at 10½ o'clock A. M., and Rev. David Andrews to preach in the Congregational Church, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Conference then voted that after the administration of the Lord's Supper on the morrow, they adjourn to meet on the second Thursday of October, 1859 at Winona.

JAMES C. BEEKMAN, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This general conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Other members of Association, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary shall call the members to order, and to the choice of a moderator, who shall then conduct the devotional exercises.

2. After the appointment of a scribe the certificates of the delegates shall be laid on the table, and the names of members enrolled.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. Next shall follow the election of officers as provided by the Constitution, and the appointment of committees.

5. At each meeting of the Conference a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

6. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

7. Every motion on being seconded shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

8. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received except for adjournment, amendment, postponement or commitment.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existant, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foun'ation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God; the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state by voluntarily transgressing the divine command in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God so that if left to themselves they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely: yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of his spirit draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works; and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

REPORT,

ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The past year has been one of outward prosperity in our churches, notwithstanding the pecuniary straitness of the times. Churches and ministers have both been greatly cramped, in common with other portions of our land; yet new organizations have been formed, and houses of worship commenced or completed. The religious interest in our churches has also been greater and more general than in any previous year, though still very far below what we could desire. Upon this head I need not enlarge as specific reports will be presented by individuals from the various churches. As it respects the number of churches, members, &c., I refer you to the accompanying statistical report. Your committee would call special attention to one item in that report, that of Benevolent Contributions. It is gratifying to see that in a year of such straitness, so much has been done by the infant churches of our State. But it will be observed by a reference to the report, that only about one-third of the churches have inserted anything under this head. May we not hope that another year will present a column in which there shall be no blanks or ciphers, that we may thus make it manifest to the world that our object in living is to glorify God and do good to man. In fine we have abundant reason to bless God for the past and form holy purposes for the future.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

C. SECCOMBE, Corresponding and Statistical Secretary.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL TRACT SOCIETY

OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called—The Evangelical Tract Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be the distribution of religious Tracts and Books—first in our own State, and then in other parts of our land and the world.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society, shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the society, and in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the society, and to conduct the correspondence.

ART. 6, It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the society, including the contributions of the churches, paying out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors, carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Tracts and Books, donating or selling the same, according to the directions of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9 The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursement of the funds, and have the general management of all the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at the same place, and at some time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds Any person may become a life member by the payment of $10 00. For the first year, all members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of this Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by two-thirds of the members present.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

The Society organized in the Congregational church at Faribault, Oct. 18th, A. D. 1858, during an adjournment of the Minnesota Congregational Church Conference. The President in the chair.

Session opened by prayer of Rev. J. R. Barnes. The Reports of officers were received and adopted. An election of officers resulted in the choice of

Rev. J. R. Barnes, President,
" E. Newton, Jr., } Vice-Presidents.
" Ira Tracy, }
R. A. Mott, Secretary.
" L. Armsby, Treasurer.
" C. Galpin, }
" Charles Shedd, } Auditors.
E. Snell, M. D., }
Royal Thayer, Depositary.

A Resolution was carried to so amend Art. 11 of the Constitution that $10 00 shall constitute its donor life member of this Society.

Adjourned to meet at Winona in 1859 some time in October during the continuance of the Cong Conference.

R. A. Mott, Secretary,

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

EVANGELICAL SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY

OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called—The Evangelical Sabbath School Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be, first, to encourage and multiply the organization of Sabbath Schools in our own State, by furnishing the same with Libraries, and secondly, to do the same work for other parts of our land.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Society, and in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the Society, and to conduct its correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the Society, including the contributions of the churches, pay out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and on approval, endorse the same.

ART 8 It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Books, donating or selling the same, according to the direction of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9. The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursements of the funds, and to have the general management of the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at some place and at the same time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds. Any person may become a life member by the payment of $10 00. For the first year, all members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of the Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended, at any annual meeting, by two-thirds of the members present.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

The Society organized in the Congregational Church in Faribault, Oct. 19th, A. D. 1858, during an adjournment of the Minnesota Congregational Church Conference, Rev. L. Armsby, President, opened the session with prayer. The reports of officers were made and adopted. An election of officers resulted in the choice of

Rev. L. Armsby, President.
" Charles Sheidd, } Vice-Presidents.
" Wm. R. Stevens, }
Mr. D. W. Humphrey, Secretary, Faribault.
Rev. J. Peckham, C. Falls, }
Mr. Olin, Northfield, } Auditors.
D. Porter, Waterford. }
Mr. E. P. Mills, Faribault, Depositary.

A resolution was carried to so amend Art. 11th, of the Constitution that $10,00 shall constitute its donor a life member of this Society.

Adjourned to meet in October 1859, at Winona, some time during the continuance of the Congregational Conference.

D. W. Humphrey, Secretary.

Congregational Ministers of Minnesota.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	OCCUPATION.	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
David Andrews	Jan. 29, 1840	Stated Supply.	Zumbrota, Minn.	Cong. Assoc. of Southern Minnesota.
Lauren Armsby	May 27th, '46	Pastor.	Faribault, "	" " of Minnesota.
J. P. Bardwell				
J. R. Barnes	1838	Stated Supply.	Cannon Falls, Minn.	Cong. Association of Minnesota.
W. T. Boutwell	1831	Farmer.	Stillwater, "	
J. E. Burbank	April 18th '52	Stated Supply.	Carimona, "	Cong. Assoc. of Southern Minnesotr.
David Burt	Nov. 4 '51	" "	Winona, "	" " of " "
Elias Clark	Jan. 3d, '51	" "	Rochester "	" " of " "
Stephen Cook	July '36	" "	Austin, "	" " of " "
Charles Galpin	Sep, '44	Without Charge.	Excelsior, "	" " of Minnesota.
Richard Hall	Aug. 8th; '50	Agent of the A. H. M. S.	Pt. Douglas, "	" " of "
Sherman Hall	June '31	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids "	" " of "
Burdett Hart	Oct. 1, '46	" "	St. Paul. "	New Haven Centre, Connecticutt.
J. J. Hill	'44	" "	Glencoe, "	Cong. Association of Minnesota,
Norman McLeod	Feb. '48	Pastor, Elect.	Minneapolis, "	" Union, Canada.
C. H. Marshall	'49	Stated Supply	Hudson, Wis.	" Association of Minnesota.
H. H. Morgan	June 7th, '41	Pastor, Elect.	Prescott, "	" " of " "
Ezra Newton	March 1st, '48	Stated Supply.	Swan River, Minn.	" " of " "
J. S. Rounce.	Feb. '52	" "	Northfield, "	Fox River Union, Ill.
Charles Seccombe	Aug. 8th, '50	Pastor.	St. Anthony, "	Cong. Assoc. of Minnesota.
Charles Shedd	March '42	Stated Supply.	Mantorville, "	" " of Southern Minnesota.
C. B. Sheldon	Oct. '9th, '51	Pastor, Elect.	Excelsior, "	" " of Minnesota.
DeWitt C. Sterry	1856	Stated Supply.	Lake City, "	Western Reserve, Ohio.
W. R. Stevens	April '47	Pastor.	River Falls, Wis.	Cong. Assoc. of Minnesota.
O. A. Thomas	Aug. 27, '53	Stated Supply.	Clinton Falls, Minn.	" " of "
Ira Tracy	Oct. '32	" "	Spring Valley, "	" " of Southern Minnesota.
Royal Twichell	Jan. 12th, '42	Temporary Supply.	Anoka, "	" " of Minnesota.

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ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

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ART. 1. This Society shall be called—The Evangelical Tract Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be the distribution of religious Tracts and Books—first in our own State, and then in other parts of our land and the world.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society, shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the society, and in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the society, and to conduct the correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the society, including the contributions of the churches, paying out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors, carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Tracts and Books, donating or selling the same, according to the directions of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9 The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursement of the funds, and have the general management of all the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at the same place, and at some time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds Any person may become a life member by the payment of $10 00. For the first year, all members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of this Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by two-thirds of the members present.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY.

The Society organized in the Congregational church at Faribault, Oct. 18th, A. D. 1858, during an adjournment of the Minnesota Congregational Church Conference. The President in the chair.

Session opened by prayer of Rev. J. R. Barnes. The Reports of officers were received and adopted. An election of officers resulted in the choice of

Rev. J. R. BARNES, President.
" E. NEWTON, JR., } Vice-Presidents.
" IRA TRACY, }
R. A. MOTT, Secretary.
" L. ARMSBY, Treasurer.
" C. GALPIN, }
" CHARLES SHEDD, } Auditors.
E. SNELL, M. D., }
ROYAL THAYER, Depositary.

A Resolution was carried to so amend Art. 11 of the Constitution that $10 00 shall constitute its donor life member of this Society.

Adjourned to meet at Winona in 1859 some time in October during the continuance of the Cong Conference.

R. A. MOTT, Secretary,

The election of Constitutional officers was postponed.

A Committee of Nominations, for committees on Resolutions, Correspondence with other religious bodies, and on Printing and Finance, was constituted of Rev. Messrs. Hall, Shedd and Tracy.

Reports of Delegates to other religious bodies were received. From these it appears that our body has been represented by letter, in the general religious bodies of our denomination, in the States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, and in the Territory of Kansas. Delegates to Oregon, Michigan, Ohio and Maine failed to report, and those to Wisconsin, California and Vermont failed to represent this body either by person or letter.

According to the report of the Committee of Nominations the Committee on Resolutions was constituted of Rev. Messrs. Barnes, Sterry and Mr. C. C. Webster. On Correspondence, of Rev. Messrs. Andrews, Cook and Clark. On Printing and Finance, Mr. A. S. Fiske, Rev. N. McLeod, and Mr. J. S. Cady.

Representatives from other bodies were introduced to, and addressed the Conference. Were welcomed and responded to by the Moderator on behalf of this body.

Rev. B. P. Stone, D. D., on behalf of the General Association of N. H.

" Messrs. Brown and Radcliffe, on behalf of the General Convention of Wisconsin.

Rev. Henry Willard, on behalf of the General Conference of Ohio.

A letter was read from the Rev. George W. Adams, on behalf of the R. I. General Consociation, also one from Rev. C. B. Bull, of the General Association of Illinois.

Rev. I. P. Langworthy addressed the Conference upon the plans and aims of the American Congregational Union.

The resolution in reference to this organization was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The reports of the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. C. Seccombe, were ordered read and adopted.

Voted, that the column of salaries in the Statistical Report be stricken out.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Rev. L. L. Radcliffe.

The Committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Willey, Burt and Seccombe, appointed last year upon the subject of a religious denominational paper, reported against any immediate action. Adopted.

The same Committee was re-appointed to hold the matter under consideration and report at the next annual meeting.

The Committee on Colleges, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Armsby, Barnes and Andrews, reported, first, that a College under Congregational influences is desirable; secondly, that a beginning should be made at once; and finally, that there seems no better plan than to adopt the institution already opened at Excelsior.

After considerable discussion, at a later session, it was

Resolved, That, as the Conference is not prepared to decide respecting the Institution at Excelsior, the matter of a College be re-committed to the present Standing Committee, and it instructed to mature an opinion, and report to this body at its next annual meeting, upon these two points, viz: "What is the best location for a College?" and, "Is the plan of uniting with other denominations in the State University feasible?"

A Committee was constituted of Rev. Mr. Burt and the Secretary to re-arrange and amend the By-Laws, introducing conditions of admission to the Conference. (The amendments proposed and adopted are embodied in the By-Laws as now printed.)

Rev. Messrs. Clark, Armsby and McLeod were appointed a Committee on the place and Preachers for the next meeting of Conference.

A resolution, recommending regular contributions in the Churches to benevolent objects, was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Rev. Messrs. Twichell, Thomas and Dea. Dale, were appointed as a Committee to present at the next annual meeting of Conference, a plan of a Society for the relief of the families of deceased clergymen.

The remainder of the session was occupied in receiving reports from the various Churches connected with the Conference.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met for public worship at 7 o'clock. A sermon was preached by Rev. Isaac P. Langworthy.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Reports of the Churches was concluded.

Report of Committee on Place and Preachers for the next meeting of Conference, recommended St. Paul as the place, and Rev. C. H. Marshall of Hudson, Wis., as preacher, and the Rev. O. A. Thomas as substitute.

A Committee was appointed consisting of Rev. David Burt, Rev. Richard Hall and Mr. Sylvester Smith, whose duty it shall be to receive, investigate, and endorse all applications from Churches in this State for aid from the Congregational Union, and to forward such endorsed applications to the Secretary of the Society.

The Committee on By-Laws reported, and their report was accepted, amended and adopted.

Report of Committee on Correspondence was received and adopted—appointing as Delegates from this body to the

General Association of Indiana—Rev. Chas. Shedd.
" " " Massachusetts—Rev. David Andrews.
" " " Illinois—Rev. Lauren Armsby.
" " " New Hampshire—Rev. David Burt.
" " " Connecticut—Mr. A. S. Fiske.
" " " New York—Rev. J. R. Barnes.
" " " Oregon—Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " " California—Rev. Richard Hall.
" " " Kansas—Rev. J. N. Williams.
" Convention " Wisconsin—Rev. Norman McLeod.
" " " Vermont—Rev. Ira Tracy.
" Conference " Michigan—Rev. E. Clark.
" " " Ohio—Rev. Henry Willard.
" " " Maine—Rev. J. B. Tufts.
" " " Iowa—Rev. J. E. Burbank.
" Consociat'n " Rhode Island—Rev. Charles Seccombe.

The following officers were elected according to the Constitution:

Corresponding Secretary—Rev. David Burt.
Recording Secretary—Rev C B. Sheldon.
Treasurer—Mr. Samuel W. Furber.
Auditor—Mr. P. W. Nichols.
Committee of Arrangements—Mr. A. S. Fiske, Rev. David Andrews. and Rev. J. B. Barnes.
Statistical Secretary—Rev. Chas. Seccombe, (Elected last year, holds office three years from date of election.)

Report of Chairman of the Committee on Printing and Finance received and approved.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened with prayer by Rev. J. B. Tufts.

The Conference here gave way for the Anniversaries of the Tract and Sabbath School Societies of the State, and for a Council of Ordination, at the request of the Church at Lenora.

The Conference then re-assembled, and was addressed by the Rev. Richard Hall, of the A. H. M. S., and by Mr Burnell, on behalf of the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society. Also, by Rev. B. P. Stone, D. D., of the N. H. Missionary Society.

EVENING SESSION.

Conference met at 7½ o'clock for public service. Sermon by Rev. B. P. Stone, D. D.

After service, the Report of the Committee on Resolutions was received.—The resolutions adopted are as follows:

Resolved, That this Conference recommend to all our Churches the practice of making contributions at stated times for benevolent objects, in order to cultivate a hearty interest in the objects themselves, and to secure habits of christian benevolence.

Resolved. That this Conference approves the position of the A. H. M. S. in relation to the principles called in question by the action and complaints of the Alton Presbytery.

Resolved, That this Conference cannot approve the action and position of the American Tract Society at New York, in relation to the subject of Slavery, but strongly sympathises with that at

Boston, and with the Reform Book and Tract Society at Cincinnati in their purpose to declare the truth upon that as upon other moral wrongs.

Resolved, That the holding of human beings as property, is an immorality—against which all Christians ought to bear testimony by withholding christian fellowship from all who are guilty of it.

Resolved, That such refusal of fellowship ought to be justified to the world, by faithful preaching against this immorality by all Christian ministers.

Resolved, That this Conference is deeply interested in the objects and ends of the Congregational Union, and especially in its efforts to aid feeble churches in erecting houses of worship, and recommends it to the confidence and hearty co-operation of the churches.

Resolved, That this Conference recommends all the churches connected with it to observe the last day of the year as a day of special prayer to God for his blessing, and the special outpouring of His Spirit upon all within our borders.

Resolved, That, as a Conference, we tender to the citizens of Winona, our sincere thanks for their kind and cordial hospitality on this occasion, with the desire and prayer that God will bestow upon them all needed spiritual good.

Resolved, also, That we tender our thanks to the choir who have so touchingly and feelingly, through the strains of sacred music, raised our hearts to heaven; and we pray God that not one of their number may fail at last of receiving a golden harp with which to mingle with the choirs above.

A resolution of sympathy with the efforts for an Academy at Zumbrota was passed.

Voted that after the Sabbath services the Conference stand adjourned, to meet at St. Paul the second Thursday in October, 1860.

Sabbath evening, Mr. Wm. W. Snell was ordained to the Gospel Ministry by a Council convened for that purpose.

A. SEVERANCE FISKE, *Scribe.*

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Other members of Associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 17, The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or the Pastor of the church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and, if desired, an Assistant Scribe shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, Resolutions, Printing and Finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place for the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ART. 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existant, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three fold distinction of persons in the God head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God; the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state by voluntarily transgressing the divine command in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works; and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can, consistently, be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Dear Brethren of the Conference:

Through the kind Providence of God we are once more permitted to see each other's faces, and shake the warm hand of sympathy and christian affection. Since our meeting in Faribault last autumn, we have been called, as individuals and as churches, to pass through trying times pecuniarily, and we are still in the deep waters; so much so that many churches that otherwise would have been represented here to-day, are not present by either pastor or delegate. This circumstance is a little saddening. We do so long to greet them all in this our annual gathering, that it is painful to think that any should be deprived of this congratulatory, and soul-nerving season by the straitness of the times. Notwithstanding, however, the trials to which we have now alluded, the past year has been one of great prosperity to the interests of our Zion. There has been a steady holding on and endurance. If not a rapid growth. No churches, I believe, have been disbanded, and no ministers have deserted their posts in consequence of the struggles to which they have been subjected. There has been much of the "hardness" of the "good soldier" exhibited, both on the part of minister and people. We have reason to believe that our trials have been greatly blessed through the mercy of God, to our spiritual good. It is seen in a greater spirit of humility and love to the prayer-meeting; in some instances it is manifested by open revival. No less than six revivals have been reported in connection with the statistics that have come to the Secretary.—The straitness of the times has not prevented the organization of new churches. No less than ten have been organized in the bounds of Minnesota since the last meeting of Conference; nearly a quarter as many as before existed. Several houses of worship have also been begun or completed, and others are in a course of completion. Over four hundred have been added to our churches between the first of May, 1858, and the first of May 1859. Over one hundred and seventy of these on profession of their faith. There have been no less than ninety infant baptisms, showing that the promise "to you and to *your children*" is not being forgotten by those whose duty it is to remember it. There has been a diminution in our benevolent contributions the past year, owing, doubtless, to the straitness of the times.

In closing this report, I cannot forbear alluding to one or two things in respect to which there is great room and need for improvement. First as it respects the cultivation of christian benevolence. By references to the Statistics it will be seen that not one half of our churches have reported any thing as given to Christ during the past year, except what was to be expended on themselves. The parting command of Christ was not, "stay at home and preach the Gospel to yourselves;" but "go ye into *all the world* and preach the gospel to *every creature*"—yourselves only as included in that field. And I submit, that no church has *begun* its legitimate work, that has not begun to enter into the spirit of that command. The straitness of the times is a valid reason why our contributions should be small; but it is not a valid reason why they should be a cipher. so long as the history of the widow's mite stands recorded on the pages of revelation. The prime importance of the thing is not of an objective but of a subjective nature; it is obedience to Christ's command, and the moral influence of such obedience upon our own christian graces. Besides, if the statistical tables be consulted, it will be seen the churches that give are not the ones, in all cases, that pay the largest salaries.

Another point which calls for a word of exhortation, is the matter of keeping church records. In order to a perfect Statistical Annual Report each church must keep a perfect record. If the blanks are to be filled up from memory, we shall find every conceivable incongruity between the reports of different years; for samples of which you have only to compare the statistical tables for 1854 and 1859. One church, for instance, in 1858, reported a membership of 40; their membership for this year is given as only 34. while they also report 8 additions and no removals. Other instances might be cited of similar incongruity, which, if not corrected, must vitiate the whole object of a Statistical Report. The Secretary, of course, cannot go back of the returns presented to him, unless he could be everywhere present the whole year, and keep the records of all the churches.

In conclusion then, let us thank God most devoutly for the past, rejoice in the good whereto we have already attained, and, not unmindful of our deficiencies, press forward unto perfection.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES SECCOMBE, *Corresponding and Statistical Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION OF THE EVANGELICAL TRACT SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called the Evangelical Tract Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be the distribution of religious Tracts and Books—first in our own State, and then in other parts of our land and the world.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Society, and in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, carefully to record and preserve the doings of the Society, and to conduct the correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the Society, including the contributions of the churches, paying out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors, carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer, and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Tracts and Books, donating or selling the same, according to the directions of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9. The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer, respecting the proper disbursement of the funds, and have the general management of all the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each annual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at the same place, and at some time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds. Any person may become a life member by the payment of $10. For the first year all members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of this Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

The Society organized in the Congregational Church at Winona, October 13th, A. D. 1859, during an adjournment of the Minnesota Congregational Church Conference.

The session was opened with prayer by the President, Rev. J. R. Barnes. The Reports of officers were received and adopted. An election of officers resulted in the choice of

President—Rev. J. R. BARNES.
Vice Presidents—Rev. E. NEWTON, Jr., and Rev. IRA TRACY.
Secretary—Rev. N. MCLEOD.
Treasurer—Rev. L. ARMSBY.
Auditors—Revs. C. GALPIN, CHARLES SHEDD, and E. SNELL, M. D.
Depositary—ROYAL THAYER,

Adjourned to meet at St. Paul in 1860, some time in October, during the continuance of the Congregational Conference.

N. MCLEOD, *Secretary.*

CONSTITUTION OF THE EVANGELICAL SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called the Evangelical Sabbath School Society of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be, first, to encourage and multiply the organization of Sabbath Schools in our own State, by furnishing the same with Libraries, and secondly, to do the same work for other parts of our land.

ART. 3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, a Corresponding and Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, three Auditors, and a Depositary.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Society, and in his absence one of the Vice Presidents, being taken in the order of their election.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary carefully to record and preserve the doings of the Society, and to conduct its correspondence.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to take charge of the funds of the Society, including the contributions of the churches, pay out nothing except by the direction of the Executive Committee, and to present an annual report of receipts and disbursements.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Auditors carefully to examine the reports of the Treasurer and, on approval, endorse the same.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Depositary to take charge of the Books, donating and selling the same, according to the direction of the Executive Committee, and presenting a careful report at the end of the year.

ART. 9. The above officers shall, together, constitute an Executive Committee, who shall direct the Treasurer respecting the proper disbursement of the funds, and to have the general management of the interests of the Society.

ART. 10. The officers shall be chosen at each anual meeting, which meeting shall be holden at the same place and at some time during the session of the General Conference.

ART. 11. Any person may become a member of this Society, for one year, by a contribution to its funds. Any person may become a life member by the payment of $10 for the first year. All members of the General Conference shall be ex-officio members of the Society.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

The Second Anniversary of this Society was held in the Congregational Church in Winona, on Saturday, October 15th, 1859, and was opened with prayer by the President, Rev Lauren Armsby.

On motion it was voted that the members of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota be ex-officio members of this Society for the ensuing year. Officers for the year were elected as follows:

President—Rev. LAUREN ARMSBY, of Faribault.
Vice Presidents—Revs. CHARLES SHEDD, of Mantorville, and WM. R. STILWELL, of River Falls, Wisconsin.
Secretary—JOHN S. CADY, of Anoka.
Treasurer—Mr. WM. THAXTER, of Faribault.
Auditors—Messrs. E. O. BURNHAM, of Wilton, OLIN, of Northfield, and Dr. MOSES PORTER, of Waterford.
Depositary—Mr. E. P. MILLS, of Faribault.

It was voted that the minutes of this Society be printed in connection with those of the General Congregational Conference, and that the proportionate expense be paid from the Treasury.

Adjourned to meet at St. Paul in October, 1860.

JOHN S. CADY, *Secretary*.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS OF MINNESOTA.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	OCCUPATION.	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Andrews, David	January 23, 1840	Stated Supply,	Wabashaw, Minnesota,	Congregational Association of Southern Minnesota.
Armsby, Lauren	May 27, 1846	Pastor,	Faribault, "	" " " Central "
Atwater, H C		Stated Supply.	Minneapolis, "	" " " " "
Barnes, J R	1838	" "	Cannon Falls, "	" " " " "
Boutwell, W. T	1831	Without Charge,	Stillwater, "	
Burbank, J E	April 13, 1858	Stated Supply.	Carimona, "	Congregational Association of Southern Minnesota.
Burt, David	November 4, 1851	" "	Winona, "	" " " " "
Clark, Elias	January 3, 1851	" "	Rochester, "	" " " " "
Cook, Nelson	September, 1845	" "	Austin, "	
Cook, Stephen	July, 1836	" "	" "	Congregational Association of Southern Minnesota.
Fiske, A. S		" "	St Paul, "	
Galpin, Charles	September, 1844	Without Charge,	Excelsior, "	" " " Central "
Hall, Richard	August 8, 1850	Agt of A. H. M. S.	Point Douglass, "	" " " " "
Hall, Sherman	June, 1831	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids, "	" " " " "
Harrison, C S		" "	Paynesville, "	
Jenkins, Jenkin			Mankato, "	
Newton, Ezra	March 1, 1849	Stated Supply	Swan River, "	Congregational Association of Central Minnesota.
Packard, A. K		Temporary Supply	St. Anthony, "	
Rounce, J S	February, 1851	Stated Supply,	Northfield, "	Fox River Union, Illinois.
Seccombe, Charles	August 8, 1850	Pastor,	St. Anthony, "	Congregational Association of Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles	March, 1842	Stated Supply,	Wasioja, "	" " " Southern "
Sheldon, C B	October 9, 1851	Pastor Elect,	Excelsior, "	" " " Central "
Snell, W. W	October 16, 1850	Stated Supply,	Rushford, "	" " " Southern "
Storry, DeWitt C	1833	" "	Lake City, "	Western Reserve, Ohio.
Thomas, O A	August 27, 1853	" "	Clinton Falls, "	Congregational Association of Central Minnesota.
Tracy, Ira	October, 1832	" "	Spring Valley, "	" " " Southern "
Tufts, J B	August, 1855	" "	Marine, "	" " " Central "
Twichell, Royal	January 12, 1842	" "	St. Charles, "	" " " " "
Willard, Henry		" "	Zumbrota, "	" " " Southern "
Willey, Austin	May 18, 1859	Pastor,	Anoka, "	
Williams, J. N		Stated Supply.	Florence, "	Congregational Association of Southern Minnesota.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS OF WISCONSIN CONNECTED WITH MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

Marshall, C H	June, 1848	Pastor,	Hudson, Wisconsin,	Congregational Association of Central Minnesota.
McLeod, Norman	February, 1848	Stated Supply,	Prescott, "	" " " " "
Morgan, H. H	June 7, 1841	Missionary,	" "	" " " " "
Spaulding, George	July, 1848	Stated Supply,	Hammond, "	" " " " "
Stevens, W R	April, 1847	Pastor,	River Falls, "	" " " " "

Benevolent
Contribut'n

285.8776
G326
1860

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NCE

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1860,

RRS.

...ns. Benevolent Contribut'ns	REMARKS.
	No contributions as a church.
$5 00	Increased interest in religion.
5 58	
6 25	
43 13	
105 97	
4 00	Church edifice commenced.
18 25	
10 00	
50 00	
	Revival during the winter.
10 00	Revival last winter.
2 50	Named changed from 'Clinton Falls.'
15 00	
60 00	
10 00	
9 22	
50 00	Revival.
unk'wn	Revival.
31 25	
9 00	
145 06	
	House of worship commenced.
20 00	
11 00	Church built. Revival.
4 00	
15 00	
85 00	
	These four Churches have been organized since May 1st, 1859.
$725 31	

285.8776
G326
1860

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

Congregational Churches

IN

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT ST. PAUL, OCTOBER 11, 1860,

WITH

A SERMON.

WINONA, MIN.:
WINONA DAILY REPUBLICAN; D. SINCLAIR & Co., PRINTERS.
1860.

NOTICE.

The sixth Annual Meeting of the Conference will be at Anoka, Oct. 10, 1861, at 7 o'clock P. M. Preacher of the opening Sermon, Rev. D. P. Harlburt; Rev. N. McLeod, substitute.

The Central Association will hold a meeting at Minneapolis, the 1st Thursday in June, 1861, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Southern Association will meet at Lake City, the 3d Tuesday in June, 1861, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The churches in the Southern Association are to be represented by pastor and delegates in a Religious Conference at Chatfield, the 2nd Tuesday of Jan., 1861, at 7 o'clock P. M.

MINUTES.

The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, held its Fifth Annual Meeting in St. Paul, commencing Thursday, Oct. 11, at 7 o'clock P. M. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. D. ANDREWS, from Isaiah 55: 10, 11.

OFFICERS.

Moderator—REV. D. BURT.
Scribe—REV. L. ARMSBY.
Assistant Scribe—REV. H. WILLARD.
Recording Secretary—REV. C. B. SHELDON.
Statistical Secretary—REV. C. SECOMBE, of St Anthony.
Corresponding Secretary—REV D. BURT, of Winona.
Treasurer—J. S. CADY, of Anoka.
Auditor—REV. L. ARMSBY, of Faribault.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

Church at Afton—Rev S. Putnam.
" " Anoka—Rev. A. K. Packard.
Rev. A. Willey, Del.
" " Cannon Falls—Rev. J. R. Barnes.
" " Clear Water—Rev. R. Twichell.
" " Cottage Grove—Theodore Furber, Del.
" " Excelsior and Chanhassan—Rev. C. B. Sheldon.
E. Snell, Del.
" " Faribault—Rev. L. Armsby.
J. H. Mills, Del.
" " Hammond—Rev. D. P. Hurlburt.
" " High Forest—Rev. E. Newton.
" " Hudson—Rev. L. N. Woodruff.
" " Marine—Rev. G. Spaulding.
P. E. Walker, Del.
" " Minneapolis—A. K. Hartwell, Del.
" " Monticello—H. W. Fuller, Del.
" " Princeton—Rev. L. C. Gilbert.
" " River Falls—Rev. W. R. Stevens.
S. Wales, Jr., Del.
" " Spring Valley—Rev. Ira Tracy.
" " St. Anthony—Rev C. Seccombe.
Wm. Upton, Del.
" " St. Charles—Rev. J. C. Strong.
" " St. Paul—Rev. A. S. Fiske.
P. W. Nichols, Del.
" " Winona—Rev. D. Burt.
" " Zumbrota—Rev. H. Willard.

MEMBERS WITHOUT PASTORAL CHARGE.

Revs. D. Andrews, Elias Clark,
Charles Galpin, W. T. Boutwell.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Revs. J. N. Williams, E. D. Neill,
J. Mattocks, ——— Pope,
——— Rhieldaffer, L. S. Radcliffe,
W. D. Dada, E. J. Hart,
N. W. Rice, ——— Walker,
——— Clark.

FRIDAY.

The A. M. was occupied by reports from the Churches and from Delegates to Foreign Bodies.

Rev. L. L. Radcliffe, represented the Pres. and Congregational Conference of Wisconsin. Rev. E. J. Hart, of N. H., and Rev. Mr. Dana, of Mass., addressed the Conference; Also, Mr. K. A. Burnell, agent of the Mass. Sabbath School Society.

A letter was read from the Congregational Association of Kansas.

The Committee on Education reported that a Literary Institution like Amherst, is eminently desirable in our State; and as much time will be required for its endowment, it should be commenced soon—that the school at Excelsior is a good one of its kind—that it would not be advisable for the Conference to take it under its formal patronage—that, with a modest name and an attainable end in view, it may accomplish a good work.

In the evening, Rev. D. Burt preached from 1 Cor. 9: 11.

SATURDAY.

The Tract and Sabbath School Societies, heretofore connected with the Conference, were dissolved, and the Committees appointed to take their place, recommended that our churches make annual contributions to supply themselves with Sabbath School books and tracts, which these Committees will furnish at Eastern prices.

The Committee on a Religious paper reported, that no paper printed out of the State, can be made sufficiently local to meet our wants. That these cannot be met through the medium of the political press—that they will endeavor to secure such a paper as we need—that, until this is done, we cannot even give public notice of a meeting of our body—that the most desirable influences of our Conference are lost for want of such an agency to continue the discussion of its measures, to advocate the cause of the Sabbath, of Temperance, and of morality in general, and that such a paper can be sustained, if our ministers and churches will make a vigorous effort to put it into circulation.

The Committee to present a plan for the relief of the families of deceased clergymen, reported a Constitution which was adopted; and over twenty members were secured. It is hoped that all our ministers not present at the Conference, will soon forward to the Treasurer, at least the sum necessary to secure membership.

Rev. Mr. Dada, of Mich., preached in the evening.

THE SABBATH.

The pulpits of St. Paul were generally supplied on the Sabbath by members of the Conference. Rev. E. J. Hart, of N. H., preached A. M., after which, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by D. Burt, and I. Tracy. Rev. Mr. Dana, of Mass., preached in the evening, after which, according to a previous vote, the Conference was adjourned.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

1. Of Arrangements; to prepare business for the next meeting.—Packard, Willard, and Fiske.
2. Delegates to Foreign Bodies—

General Conference	of	Maine—A. Willey.
"	"	" Michigan—W. W. Snell.
"	"	" Ohio—S. Cook.
"	"	" Iowa—C. B. Sheldon.
"	"	" Wisconsin—A. K. Packard.
"	"	" Vt.—G. Spaulding.
Consociation		" R. I.—J. S. Rounse.
Association		" Ind.—W. R. Stevens.
"	"	" Ills.—D. Andrews.
"	"	" Mass.—D. Burt.
"	"	" N. Y.—A. S. Fiske.
"	"	" Ct.—C. Seccombe.
"	"	" N. H.—L. Armsby.
"	"	" Oregon—C. Galpin.
"	"	" D. C. Sterry.
"	"	" Kansas—C. S. Harrison.

3. To examine manuels of Congregational usages, and to recommend one to our churches—Willey, Packard, and Fiske.
4. On Religious paper—Willey, Burt, and Seccombe.
5. To correspond with the Ct. Home Mis. Soc., respecting its plan of missionary labor in Min.—Fiske, Barnes, and Willey.
6. To consider Rev. E. D. Neill's proposition, that our Denomination endow a Professorship in the State University—Armsby, Barnes and Packard.
7. On Printing and Finances—Burt, Armsby, and Sheldon.
8. Trustees of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society—Barnes, Armsby, Burt, Seccombe, and P. W. Nichols.
9. Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe.
10. Corresponding Secretary—D. Burt.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. To receive and indorse applications of churches in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed, to the Secretary of that Society—D. Burt of Winona, R. Hall. of Point Douglas, S. J. Smith of Winona.
2. To receive and indorse applications from churches, for aid from the A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State;

   Central Association—A. S. Fiske, St. Paul, S. Hall, Sauk Rapids.

   Southern Association—D. Burt, Winona, C. Shedd, Wasioja.

   N. B.—The churches should recognize these Committees, as they are appointed at the request of the societies in question.
3. To promote the cause of Sabbath Schools—C. Seccombe, of St. Anthony, A. Willey, of Anoka, P. W. Nichols, of St. Paul.
4. To promote the cause of Tract distribution—D. Burt, of Winona, A. S. Fiske of St. Paul, L. Armsby, of Faribault.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

STATISTICS.

That, hereafter, our statistical year cover the time suggested by the Congregational Quarterly.

REPRESENTATION.

That, in the absence of the appointed delegate, any member of this Conference, being present at the meeting of any Religious Body in correspondence with us, may act for him.

GAMES OF CHANCE.

That the practice of engaging in games of chance, used for purposes of gambling, is a dangerous familiarity with that respecting which, "ignorance is bliss;" and should be condemned by Christians; since gamblers are made out of those who learn to play for sport, as confirmed drunkards are made out of those who began by drinking moderately for pleasure.

DANCING.

That public dancing is so often attended with a disregard of the

proper use of night, with injurious excitement and damage to health, and with associations pertaining to the theater and the house of the strange woman, that it is detrimental to a devotional spirit, and to their religious influence for christians to sanction it by their presence.

ANTI-SLAVERY.

That we deem it our duty to patronize such Sabbath School Societies, as seek to train up the youth of our land, to be hostile to oppression, as a christian duty.

THE SABBATH.

That we protest against the practice of those Boats on the Mississippi, which compel their passengers to travel on the Sabbath, or to forfeit their tickets, as unjust and oppressive.

That members of christian churches, no less than christian ministers, who travel for business or pleasure upon our Western waters, on the Sabbath, are guilty of a flagrant violation of the fourth commandment.

CREEDS.

That all our churches that have not yet complied with the 6th Art. of the By-Laws, be requested to send a copy of their Articles of Faith and Covenant, to the Corresponding Secretary, to be laid by him, before the Conference at its next meeting.

N. B. *Brethren; comply with this request before you forget it, and save the Secretary the trouble of writing.*

DEATH OF REV. H. M. NICHOLS.

That the death of Rev. H. M. Nichols and family, by drowning, has deeply impressed us with the uncertainty of life. In our loss of this able and useful Brother, we sympathize with his bereaved church at Minneapolis. High hopes of spiritual and material aid through him, in erecting a chapel in place of theirs recently burnt, have been disappointed. May the Shepherd of Israel, soon provide them a fold, and ever a man to keep their flock.

THANKS.

That we tender our thanks to the people of St. Paul, for the cordial and comfortable entertainment with which we have been furnished.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID-SOCIETY.

ART. I. This organization shall be called "The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society."

ART. 2. It shall be the sole object of this Society to procure, take care of, and disburse a fund for aiding the Widows and Orphans of deceased ministers of the Gospel, or indigent ministers and their families, who, in either case, have complied with the terms of Arts. 10 and 11.

ART. 3. The members of the General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, for any year, shall, for that year, constitute the members of this society.

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall consist of Five Trustees, at least, three of whom, shall be clergymen, to be chosen for three years, at the annual meeting of the General Conference of our churches, from its members, in the manner preferred at the time of election.

ART. 5. The Trustees shall organize immediately after their election, by choosing from their number, a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; and three of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 6. Special meetings of the Trustees may be called at any time and place, to transact any business which cannot be transacted by correspondence with each other; and they shall hold an annual meeting to examine accounts, records, reports, etc., at some time during the session of the Annual Conference of our churches, and previously to the report of their officers to the same.

ART. 7. The Treasurer shall be required to give bonds to the Trustees for the faithful discharge of his duties, in a sum, equal, in the judgment of the Trustees, to the amount of funds to be intrusted to his care during his term of office.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the President to preside in the meetings of the Trustees and to correspond, if thought necessary, with parties applying for aid; of the Secretary, to keep the records of the Society, to preserve on file all its papers, to submit the same, when desired, to the Trustees for examination, and to read before each Annual Conference of our churches, the records of the past year.

ART. 9. The Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the Trustees, shall invest the funds of the Society; and, if loans are made to individuals, take ample security in unincumbered farming lands. He shall also make disbursements to beneficaries at the written order of the Trustees, signed by the President and Secretary, and present a written report annually to the General Conference, in which a full account shall be given of all receipts investments, and disbursements for the time covered by such report.

ART. 10. The Trustees shall grant aid only to persons described in Art. 2, and recommended to them by, at least, two ministers of the gospel, or other reliable persons; and until the fund shall amount to $10,000, the appropriations to living indigent ministers, or their families, shall not exceed one-sixth of the increase of the fund for the pre-

ceding year, donations in real estate excepted; and one-third of such increase shall be the extent of appropriations to the families of deceased clergymen. The amount liable to be appropriated in any year, shall be placed on deposit, and, at the end of six months, the proper appropriations shall be made to all applicants received during that time; and then, the sum which remains unappropriated, shall be permanently invested; and so of the amount remaining after the appropriations of the next six months.

ART. 11. Any Evangelical minister of the gospel, with his family, shall be eligible to aid from the Society after commencing to pay into its treasury annually, not less than one dollar, and pledging himself to increase its funds by securing, if possible, legacies and donations in real estate or money. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the names of all persons complying with this rule, and an opportunity for making this contribution, shall be given at every Annual Meeting of our Conference. Those not present at the meeting, shall forward their contributions to the Treasurer within three months, or forfeit their membership, unless excused by him for the neglect.

ART. 12. The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, in case of the dissolution of this society, shall own and dispose of its funds, and shall have power to make any alterations in this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting; provided that such alteration shall have been proposed in writing and admitted for consideration by a majority vote.

REPORT OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

DEAR BRETHREN:

The words of the Apostle, "As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing," are, to-day, peculiarly applicable to our churches.—They all have their trials—no one is joyless. Such is the experience by which we are to acquire strength for our mission in this prospectively populous State. The "hardness" which we are called to endure is fitted to incite us to faith, patience, persistent effort; and all these are conditions of success. Our joyous experiences indicate that we have the sympathy of the Great Head of the Church, and with this we cannot fail.

Our present number of churches is sixty-three; there being a gain of eleven during last year. Three meeting houses have been finished, and three more are in process of erection. We have received several valuable accessions to our ministry, while some who were with us a year ago, have been taken away by death or disabled by illness.

The material ability of our churches is somewhat greater than when we last met; yet, in some instances, the miracle of the widow's cruse of oil and handful of meal, has been seemingly wrought again. There has been an increase in our membership, of one hundred and eighty-four, but not so large a proportion by profession as we could wish. By nearly all the churches conversions are reported, yet but few have enjoyed what is understood by a revival.

These events have occasioned an experience of mingled joy and sorrow. We have grown, but it is somewhat as trees grow in winter. We are consolidating, taking root, accumulating vigor; and we shall behold fruit in the fullness of time.

D. BURT, Corresponding Secretary.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Other members of Associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or the Pastor of the church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and, if desired, an Assistant Scribe shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, Resolutions, Printing and Finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place for the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjourdment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ART. 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God; the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state, by voluntary transgressing the Divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostasy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We belive that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen,

in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works; and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can, consistently, be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

Resolved—That we solicit a copy of the discourse on Ministerial support, preached before the Conference by Rev. D. BURT of Winona, and that the same be printed with our minutes.

A

DISCOURSE DELIVERED BEFORE

THE

Congregational Conference,

BY

REV. D. BURT.

1 Cor. 9: 11. "IF WE HAVE SOWN UNTO YOU SPIRITUAL THINGS, IS IT A GREAT THING IF WE SHALL REAP YOUR CARNAL THINGS?"

It was a principle of Christ when on earth never to work a miracle to supply his own physical wants. Whenever these were relieved, it was by human agencies. The Apostles, in receiving miraculous power, were restricted to the same principle. Although they were forbidden to take purse or scrip for their journey, it was not because of any intention on the part of Christ to feed and clothe them by a special Divine interposition, but because, as he says, "The workman is worthy of his meat" from those for whom he labors. When they entered a city or town they were to inquire who in it was worthy to receive them, and to cast themselves directly upon such for subsistence; and a doom worse than

that of Sodom and Gomorrah awaited any house or city that would not hear them and minister to their necessities.

This Divine arrangement for the maintenance of those who are appointed to preach the Gospel is not generally understood. It was intimated to Christ, that if he is the Son of God, he should make bread for himself out of stones; and the notion is still extant, that his ministers, by virtue of their connection with heaven, ought to possess some spiritual alchemy by which they can create for themselves the things necessary for the body. In some communities they cannot speak of compensation for their services, without occasioning the remark, that they preach for filthy lucre. But Paul publicly and boldly affirmed, "Even so hath the Lord ordained, that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel." Did he preach for filthy lucre? Yet, he asks the close, reproving question of the text. He advanced the doctrine, that those who preach the Gospel deserve a comfortable living, and that they are to ask this of the churches, not as a gratuity, but as a debt. He discussed this subject both for his own time, and because of a coming age, in which his successors in the ministerial office would need, in this matter, his apostolical authority. If he could claim a comfortable living of those to whom he preached without deserving the charge of selfishness, why may not we? As there were reasons why he spoke plainly on this subject in his day, so do reasons now exist, in view of which it needs a thorough discussion. Churches negligent in their temporal affairs cannot fulfill their mission to the world unless the pernicious habit is corrected. Who will undertake the thankless task if ministers of the Gospel do not? It has been too long neglected through our false modesty. We must preach on the subject, even if our motives are impugned.

In accordance with the sentiment of the text, it is proposed to suggest THE OUTLINES OF A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION FOR OUR CHURCHES, ON THE MATERIAL SUPPORT OF THEIR MINISTRY.

Our churches should be taught, I remark: 1. *That ministers of the Gospel are under no greater obligations to make pecuniary sacrifices to the cause of Christ than other men.*

The assumption is really made by many, that there are two standards of christian beneficence; a lower one for laymen, and a higher one for the clergy. In some communities the minister gives to benevolent objects more than members of his church, who are worth five hundred times as much as he. This fact is known to the people, but they neither applaud him nor blame themselves. He is expected to give more than they. If an enterprise for their own religious welfare is to be un-

dertaken, he is expected to take charge of it; and frequently others will not move until he moves them. Let there be a delay in the collection of his dues, and he, of course, must suffer all the inconvenience. Let there be a deficiency, and in more than one instance, it has been quietly assumed that he will say nothing if it is never paid. The impression is, that his mission, being highly benevolent in its nature, requires him to do and to endure all these things without complaint, while his people, being engaged in secular pursuits, may have a less exalted and more secular rule of benevolent practice. Laymen are governed to a great extent in the selection of their place of residence, by the question, "Where can I be most successful in the acquisition of wealth?" They think it no disgrace to affirm, "I removed from A. to B., because I believe that B. is the better place for making money." Perhaps they never thought of the question, "Can I be as useful in A?" The item of money was the main motive for the change.

But, let it be known that an offer of a larger salary has induced a minister to remove from one church to another, with an equal or even a greater prospect of usefulness, and many professedly christian men will insinuate that he is wanting in integrity. They deem themselves at liberty to provide for the prospective wants of their families to go into business where, if possible, they can accomplish this end. But the preacher of the Gospel should, in their opinion, be satisfied if he barely supports his family from week to week. If it is found that he has saved a few dollars from his salary in a given year, it is whispered that it is too large, that there is danger of his becoming worldly, and that it would be an act of kindness to remove the temptation. The few ministers who do succeed in saving a modicum of their salaries for future wants sometimes find it necessary to conceal the fact from their people. Were it known, it would be thought that he ought to exhaust the income of a year during the year. It would be said, "Our minister is not in want. He has money laid by;" and the delinquency of the people would virtually cut down his salary to the limits of his current expenses.

Facts like these show that ministers of the Gospel are expected and really demanded to make greater pecuniary sacrifices than other christians. But where, I ask, where in the bible is there any warrant for this demand? Where is it said or implied that laymen may be less liberal or make smaller pecuniary sacrifices than clergymen? Where the proof that they are not equally bound with us to be as useful as possible? It does not exist. We have the same right to make the acquisition of money our strongest impulse to action that they have. No man has such a right.

We will not, however, complain that the churches are requiring too much of us, if they will apply the same test to themselves. Yet, we love consistency. There is in the Scriptures but one law of beneficence for us all. They should either ascend, or let us descend. Evidently, we should rather attempt to elevate our people into a higher plane of devotion to the cause of Christ. They are susceptible of such elevation, and not directly opposed to it. Still, they need instruction on this subject; and let it no longer be the fault of christian ministers that it is not given.

I remark, our churches need to be taught: 2. *That ministerial services should be remunerated in proportion to the expenditure of time and money required in qualifying one to render them successfully.*

We have heard remarks which imply, that the degree of compensation rendered to professional men should not exceed that of laborers in the ordinary pursuits of business. The idea seems to be, that if farmers and mechanics receive one dollar per day, that should be the price for professional services. The educated school teacher should work for the same wages as men who wield the ax or the spade. The skillful physician is called exorbitant if he will not set a broken arm for a sum which would satisfy a mechanic for mending a broken rake. Educated and able ministers should be secured for a salary which would hire a clerk to weigh groceries or measure cloth. It is covertly hinted, "Our ministers ought to be contented with his six hundred, or even his four hundred dollars a year. That is more than a majority of his people receive for their personal labor." Such hints are an evidence that the attention of the public should be called to the reasons why professional, and especially ministerial services, deserve, a higher compensation than other kinds of labor. The fact is overlooked that educated professional men render the public a *kind* of service which others cannot render for want of the necessary qualifications. Many kinds of common labor can be performed without any previous theoretic instruction or experience. Many mechanics learn their arts in a few months, and some in a few days, incurring little or no expense, and even making their labor a source of income, while learning how to perform it. But one who qualifies himself for teaching must expend much time and money for this purpose. The skillful physician was obliged to pay the medical school for his skill, besides supporting himself during the terms of study necessary for its acquisition. Is it just that the teacher should work for what will hire a man to perform labor which requires no previous expenditure for qualification? Ought a skillful medical practitioner to sell his costly experience as cheaply as one can afford to sell his ability

to repair shoes or mend damaged furniture? The first sermon preached by a properly educated minister, costs him at least three thousand dollars. He has spent two years in a preparatory school, four in college, and three more in professional study. During this time he could lay by nothing as capital, but was constantly expending money.

It is true that there are many farmers and mechanics who can save nothing from their income. It requires it all to meet their current expenses, and they live poorly at that. But would it be so, if they had spent nine years in diligent labor, and saved the result as capital, before assuming the duty of becoming heads of families? There is this difference between their case and that of the student. They voluntarily—we will not say unwisely—placed themselves in a position where they must abandon the idea of accumulating any capital, while he was obliged to go through a course of study preparatory to his profession, which necessarily prevented him from accumulating capital, and either exhausted his little share of the paternal property; or, if he had no such share, involved him in debt. He has had no opportunity of acquiring a capital on which to rely in the decline of life before he commences professional service, but is entirely dependent on his salary; and is it not fair that he should have this opportunity after professional life commences? or, will you doom him and his to a condition in which no provision can be made for future wants? If you do not take the bold and heartless position, that a minister should possess no capital on which to draw when disabled from serving the church, must you not grant him a salary from which, while living prudently, yet comfortably, he can save something for the winter of age? Is it consistent with the principles of honor and of right, that a man, when he comes into actual ministerial service at the age of thirty, for one is rarely ever able to do it sooner, after nine expensive years of preparation, should be required to labor for the same sum that will hire a clerk who can be fully taught his business in a few weeks or days, even? Can it be expected that young men will create debts or use up their patrimony for the sake of educating themselves for the ministry, if their salaries are to be graded by this unrighteous rule? It is fast becoming evident that such an expectation is vain.

We do not imply, by these comparisons, that common labor is necessarily less respectable than professional service. Far from it. We honor the humblest laborer who acts well his part. We do not exalt ourselves above him. We mean only to affirm, that until the scores of clerks and mechanics or farmers in a community, shall all qualify themselves to occupy the pulpit, they ought not to insinuate that the minis-

ter's salary should not exceed their wages. While there are hundreds of men who can perform the secular labors of life, to one who can prepare and preach a good sermon, we assert that even placing the question on the low commercial ground, that demand and supply should regulate price, our Western ministers generally are not properly paid for their services. The people must admit this fact or be satisfied with an uneducated ministry, or a third class of ministerial talent. The charge that we are mercenary, will not avert this result. We are not mercenary in insisting upon these principles eminently reasonable and necessary to our professional success; and no such charge should deter us from enlightening the churches on this subject.

But passing on to another line of thought, I observe, our churches should be taught: 3. *That their pecuniary agreements with their ministerial servants are legal and sacred contracts, and that the responsibility of fulfilling them promptly, cannot be transferred to others.*

In certain branches of the christian church, the notion has prevailed that ministers of the Gospel should subsist on what the people are pleased to put into their hands, without any previous and definite pledge of support. The fathers of the Free-will Baptist denomination, during its early days in New England, declaimed loudly against "fixed salaries," and said to their people, "Give us what you please; we will make no pecuniary contract with the churches." It soon appeared, however, that if they were not, as they said, "a hireling ministry," they were a *starved* ministry. The churches assumed, that their ministerial servants could literally live upon faith; and it finally became necessary for them to claim of the churches a share of their carnal things, and to fix the amount by a definite and formal contract. This result might have been foreseen. There are few churches that would afford their ministers an adequate support; if the ministerial service were first rendered, and they were then left to decide the question of compensation free from the restraints of a previous and legal contract. This notion, however, that ministerial support should not be made the subject of a definite agreement between minister and people, does not often obtain in this extreme form among those who admit that there is a class of men divinely commissioned to preach the Gospel. Yet, the idea is very common in some regions, that the pecuniary engagement of a people with their minister is less obligatory than an ordinary secular contract. Churches make promises to their ministers without attempting to foresee how they are to be fulfilled. It is assumed that we have so much good nature and easy forbearance, and are so un-business-like in our habits, that we will not hold them strictly to the letter of the promise. It has

come to pass in some places, that the vote or pledge of a church to raise a certain annual salary for their servant in the Gospel, really means, "We will pay you that sum if it comes into our treasury without any special effort; or if you will drum it out of the congregation; or receive it in Barter or a 'Big Donation;' but you must consider it more a gratuity than a matter of just debt." Many who rent pews or subscribe toward the salary, will not allow the collector to ask in earnest for what is expected of them. They ignore the idea of any moral or legal obligation in the case; and if strongly urged, become defiant or angry at what they call begging for ministers. Men who are careful to sustain their commercial credit by making extra efforts to meet their promise to pay a *note* when it becomes due, will quietly allow their promise to pay a mite into the treasury of the *church* to remain unfulfilled an indefinite length of time after its maturity.

Moreover, there are some churches that attempt to transfer to others these pecuniary responsibilities without reflecting upon the unfairness, not to say immorality of the transaction. The process is this. A subscription paper is drawn up, and the leading members of the church write down a certain sum, on the assumption that others will all do their part, and taking care to leave them a wide margin for the duty. The paper is passed round and the amount finally subscribed. The individuals who were active in making the contract, promptly pay what they subscribed; but many others do not. When the deficiency appears, the minister is told that those who have subscribed but not paid, are responsible for it; or, in some places, the pews are appraised at an amount sufficient to meet the salary, and rented for the year to persons in the church and out of it. Those most interested in religious matters pay their rents promptly, and then say to the minister, "We cannot collect the rest of your salary;" assuming that the responsibility of the delay rests upon those to whom they have rented the pews. That these persons ought to keep their promises, is true; but does the responsibility rest on them in such a sense as to diminish that of those who formally contracted with their minister? If so, we have certainly discovered a very compendious method of paying debts. One who owes another has only to say to him, "I have formed a joint responsibility company, consisting of myself, X., Y., and Z., who promised to pay a certain proportion of what I owe you. Here is my part according to the dividend, and you must absolve me from further liability, and wait for the remainder until they are ready to pay it." But what would the creditor say to this? He would reply, "I know nothing of X., Y., and Z., I made the contract with you, and I cannot look beyond you

for its fulfillment." In the bank, and the store, this reply could not be gainsayed; and, if our churches managed their temporal affairs in a business-like manner, they would feel its force. They would admit the impossibility of escaping their obligation to fulfill their pecuniary contract with their ministers, by making sub-contracts with other and irresponsible parties.

We are willing that our churches should obtain from those not members of them all the prompt aid they can. We hold that every man in a christian community, ought to aid in supporting the christian ministry. But this general duty and the contracts which our churches make with us are two different things, and should not be confounded. The contract is morally binding on the party who makes it, even if others, who ought to help fulfill it, decline. What we should insist upon is, that that the churches shall not make contracts with us, which they will not fulfill, even if all outside fails. We should require them to know definitely on what grounds they make us promises. If they do it on a vague expectation that they can collect a part of what is promised from sources which, to an upright business man would seem unreliable, we ought to reprove them for the visionary attempt. The moral character of the act is questionable; and they should be held to the point, that the responsibility of sustaining their ministers, is not transferable. They should be required to decide precisely what they can, and will punctually accomplish. If their ability is small, we will still serve them if we can consistently with our temporal wants. We will not use our right to demand what our ministerial services are intrinsically worth, unless we absolutely need that compensation for our families. Many of us are now making the Gospel without charge, in the sense of preaching, on much smaller salaries than we could receive elsewhere. While we glory in doing this, we cannot afford to be disappointed by broken pledges; and when we know that what our people promise does not exceed their real ability, we must say to our prominent men, "You have done well in paying the quotas of the salary which you severally assigned to yourselves, but you must figure again, leaving out of the account those who, although they seem to be somewhat, yet really add nothing to your pecuniary strength." This we should do as an imperative duty; for we cannot consistently rebuke our people for violating their word in any other instance, if we allow them unreproved, to violate their promises to us. We cannot correct that moral laxity which some church members manifest in their ordinary business, unless we can first induce them to be governed by moral principle in the business of religion.

To give this thought a little wider range, our churches should be taught, I remark: 4. *That, in order to secure and retain an able ministry, they must become efficient in the management of their general temporal affairs.*

The churches of the West desire great preachers. They need good preachers. Our people will not endure dullness in the pulpit. Mediocrity finds it difficult to succeed. We wish this want might be generally met, and we will inform our churches how it can be done. Not if, when in need of pastors, they adopt the pernicious practice of hearing all the candidates who can be found, of criticising them after the standard of metropolitan churches which can offer metropolitan salaries, of encouraging each to expect a call, and of finally extending one to the man who is best liked by the judges of smart things. This plan will never do for churches barely able to afford their ministers a daily support, and perhaps in doing this, dependent on foreign aid. It will divide their members into irreconcilable factions for this man and that, and finally disgust all. Genius and eloquence, if sanctified, are valuable in the pulpit; but piety and common sense are indispensable in a Western pastor. The former are desirable, the latter, necessary to ministerial success. If in any instance both do not exist together, there is no doubt which should be preferred.

But, furthermore, our churches should not require their ministers to leave the word of God and serve tables. It must not be expected that they will attend to the secular affairs of the church or society. One can cheerfully go to a pagan land, where the people do not understand the nature of his mission, and perform all the secular labor necessary to its success. But it is not necessary that a preacher in christendom should do this. There are those in his church who can and should take all the secular labors and care of the church off his hands. Yet, if inquiry were made, it is possible that such facts as these would be brought to light. The people of a certain town propose to erect a meeting house. It is presumed that all are interested in the enterprise. No responsible person is appointed to keep a written account of funds received and expended. The work goes on through a committee of the whole. Everybody is responsible to nobody. They purchase on credit, a lot upon which to build, and take no deed of it. The subscription soon fails and money is borrowed. The job is at last finished. The people go through the farce of ostensibly dedicating to God, a house which is not theirs to give away. It belongs to the creditors of the church. The affair is spoken of as a glorious achievement of Western enterprise. There is great joy while creditors keep quiet; but when

they demand their dues, it is found to be one thing to build a meeting house—quite another thing to *pay* for it.

In another place, where a house of worship is building, there is an energetic minister on the ground. Every man expects that the work will be carried on without his personal aid, and in the mean time is intent on his own private business. The minister urges and entreats, but no one moves. There are men who ought to say, I will carry this enterprise to a successful completion. But no one will assume this responsibility. The minister is obliged to leave the word of God. He handles lumber, tends mason, and does everything that no one else will do. Perhaps he even becomes personally responsible for a part of the expense of building, and when the house is finished, performs the duty of sexton. There are men in his church who could have done all these things but for their indifference to the Lord's business, and a selfish devotion to their own. They knew, however, that their devoted minister would perform these labors if they would not, and they cast them upon him.

To the honor of the American Congregational Union, it should be said, that wherever its influence has been felt in the West, it is reforming these abuses. It requires the people to secure a good title to the ground on which they build. They must pledge themselves to raise a sum not below their actual ability, as determined by a ready mind; and that pledge must be virtually fulfilled, before aid is granted. This lesson of prompt effort, of strict integrity in keeping their promise, is hardly less valuable than the assistance rendered. Its influence is felt as far as a knowledge of the transaction extends.

In another community, the Trustees of a religious society, negotiate with a minister, and ascertain the least sum that will meet his wants for a year, and pledge themselves that he shall receive it in due time. Relying on that pledge, he moves his family to the place and commences preaching. But months pass away, and nothing is said of his salary. A. assumes that B. will start the subscription, and B. that A. will do it; and so of C. and D. Amid all these false assumptions, little is contributed to the poor missionary, and he is finally obliged to do violence to his feelings, either by borrowing, or begging, or publicly dunning his people. Even in some parishes, which contain enterprising bankers and merchants, and lawyers and physicians, it might appear, were the investigation continued, that there are few persons ready for the business of the church. Men are not wanting, who, when they accidentally hear that the minister needs his dues but does not receive them, will exclaim "It ought not to be so; it is too bad. Why does not somebody do something?" But the momentary sympathy ends in talk.

It is not affirmed of any particular church, that it is remiss to the full extent of these remarks; yet, there are *members* in some of our churches to whom these strictures apply. It should be plainly said to such, that unless they manage the business of their religion with something of the energy manifested in their personal worldly affairs, they are destined to suffer a famine of the Word for want of competent preachers. Kindred to this line of thought, there is another, to which I hasten. We should urge it upon our churches as a sacred duty:

5. *That they must conscientiously exert themselves to assume the entire support of their ministry as soon as possible.*

Fifty-three churches of this State were aided in 1859 by the American Home Missionary Society, receiving $9,000, while their own pledges to their ministers, amounted to two-thirds as much, or $6,000. Permission is granted us to ask for this aid, and even to state how much it is necessary for us to receive. If we abuse such confidence and liberality, the curse of God will fall upon us. Our churches must understand that the money appropriated to them by this Society, does not grow on trees at the East, nor spontaneously flow into its treasury, as if it were of no use anywhere else.

It is the wages of poor factory girls—it is widows' mites—it is the result of hard labor and economy on the part of the donors—not because church members at the East are all poor, but because many of them are liable to the same reproof that we are administering to some Western christians. The amount contributed to Home Missions last year by the Congregational churches of Massachusetts, divided by the number of their members, gives an average of about sixty-eight cents to each. From this it is evident that many of their wealthy members have either contributed nothing, or a sum so small in comparison with their wealth, that a poorer class must have given far more liberally in proportion to their means.

We cannot consistently receive this aid unless we first practice a rigid economy. We must bleed ourselves before we ask others to bleed for us. As beneficiaries of the A. H. M. S., it is our sacred duty to christians at the East, to prevent our people from depending on foreign aid more than is positively necessary; and be it known that we are not neglecting this duty; that we say to our wealthiest church members, you must set apart a liberal share of your property to meet church expenses. If we observe tendencies to extravagance, fear we not to administer reproof—to condemn all forms of sinful self-indulgence as needlessly diminishing the amount which will be paid toward supporting the gospel. The A. H. M. S., wisely requires that the promises of our

people to us for a year be fulfilled during that year; and that renewed application for aid shall be accompanied by a certificate that this has been done. Unless some event occurs during the year which makes the pecuniary ability of our people considerably less than when they contracted with us, we should not accept their promise to pay the deficiency at some future time. If we enter into such compromises with inefficiency we sanction and foster the evil.

These remarks do not imply that our churches have forfeited the confidence of the A. H. M. S. They should rather assure our friends abroad, that their Western Missionaries are faithfully aiming to *deserve* their confidence, by firmly guarding against the evils referred to, and preventing them from springing into prevalent facts. We could present figures which would show that Western church members, as a whole, bear heavier burdens in proportion to their numbers and wealth than christians in the older States. But there is a disposition here, on the part of some, to cast these burdens upon a few. We are aiming to bring these delinquent members to a sense of their duty; and in this effort, we neither wish to be unjust to that class of Western christians, who are contributing for the support of their churches to the extent of, and even beyond their ability, nor would we send abroad an impression tending to dissuade christians in the older States, from missionary effort. If they have no selfish men, no drones in their own churches, it may not indicate a want of discrimination in them, to withhold aid from us because we are not all faithful.

As the last particular which I have time to mention, our churches should be taught: 6. *That their spiritual prosperity depends upon a cheerful rendering of an adequate material support to their ministry.*

By an adequate support, it is not meant that ministers should constitute a select gentry, and indulge in costly luxuries; but they are, or should be, men of esthetic and moral refinement. As such, their happiness, and through this, their usefulness, demand that they be surrounded in their homes with the accessories of a cultivated taste, and the instruments of efficient study. A church infallibly injures itself, by reducing its minister to an allowance so short, that much of his time must be given to the secular concerns of his household; or that his intellectual growth, must be arrested for want of books to excite and quicken thought. It is to any church a great calamity to break up the studious habits of its pastor and secularize his mind, by keeping him at a point just above starvation. Such a church must suffer with the cramped pastor, in its intellectual and moral growth. This is the *natural* result of its penurious policy. But still further, God will shut up the

heavens above such a church, as he did above his ancient people, when they withheld the appropriate support of their priesthood. It is as true now as it was then, that all the tithes must be brought in before he will pour out the large blessing which we need. No church can rise to a position where it will command respect in the community, no church can consistently pray for the success of its minister, while it forgets that he is cut off by the very terms of his commission, from all worldly sources of gain, and made dependent for the subsistence of himself and family upon those to whom he ministers in spiritual things, by a decree of heaven, ordaining that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel.

In conclusion, two remarks suggest themselves: 1. *The fact that our churches live and even gain strength, in spite of such mismanagement in their temporal affairs, is a striking proof that there is a Divine power in christianity.*

Any organization dependent for its success upon human foresight, would be ruined by such mismanagement. A system whose basis is money, would be rendered inoperative at once if its financial department were conducted as loosely as is that of many christian churches. The same negligence would sink the wealthiest banking or mercantile house in our country, more than five hundred fathoms below bankruptcy.

"But holy church is praying yet,
A thousand years the same."

Secular enterprises on which men lavish their time, come to nought, while she lives almost without care. Political conquests cannot be won without an abundance of money and great worldly wisdom, but with a treasury dependent on widows' mites, and notwithstanding the folly of the children of light, the christian church is a constantly increasing moral power in the world. Why is this? Because God is in her and helps her right early. But why should our reluctance to become co-workers with him, defer the day of his universal reign on earth?

I remark, in fine: 2. *This evil will be corrected if we can re-establish the scriptural test of conversion, that our time and material possessions must be fully surrendered to Christ, and used by us for him as he directs*

This test was recognized in the primitive christian church. "Neither said any of them that ought of the things that he possessed was his own." Christ positively required this surrender of property. "Whoso forsaketh not all that he hath, cannot be my disciple." The principle is, we must admit, that our property and time belong to Christ. If any exigency arises, which requires the possessors of houses and lands, to sell them and bring the price thereof and lay it at the feet of Jesus, they must not refuse. If one can do more good by retaining, or even increasing

his capital, and holding all as a steward of God, "ready to distribute" in sums equal to his ability and the importance of the object, when a properly certified one is presented, that for him is the course of duty If one has nothing but time to give, he must give it wisely, freely. This is the scriptural test of descipleship. But many do not recognize it; and here is the cause of the evils deplored. Members of the church attempt to give their hearts to God, while they withhold their hands. Their property is sought and held for selfish purposes. Their expenditures for comfort and pleasure are in dollars, but their outlays to sustain the Gospel, in dimes. They can devote their evenings to politics, to recreation, but not to religious duty.

We can never correct these evils so long as we admit that they are consistent with a good christian character. In love, yet firmly, must we insist upon the scriptural test of conversion, that one cannot give himself to Christ, unless he affirms that nought of the things which he possesses is his own, and yield them all up to be used as Christ requires. Let this test be fully re-established in the churches, and christianity shall no longer be hampered and crippled by her professed friends. Commanding the fountains of material wealth, her spiritual forces shall go forth to the conquest of the world.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1860.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	PRESENT RELATION.	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Andrews, David...	Jan'y 29, 1840	Without Charge	Wabashaw, Minn.	Southern Minnesota.
Armsby, Lauren...	May 27, 1846	Pastor.	Faribault, "	Central Minnesota.
Barnes, J. K.....	1838	Stated Supply.	Cannon Falls, "	" "
Blumer, Adam.....	Feb'y 4, 1857	" "	Shakopee, "	Davenport Asso't'n, Iowa.
Boutwell, W. T.....	1831	Without Charge	Stillwater, "	
Burbank, J. E.....	April 13, 1858	Stated Supply.	Carimona, "	Southern Minnesota.
Burnham, E. O....	Licentiate.	" "	Wilton, "	" "
Burt, David.....	Nov. 4, 1851	" "	Winona, "	" "
Cochran, J.....	Jan'y 1841	" "	Elgin, "	" "
Cook, Nelson.....	Septem. 1845	Without Charge	Austin, "	
Cook, Stephen.....	July 1837	Stated Supply.	" "	Southern Minnesota.
Crawford, William	Licentiate.			
Dada, W. B.....	July 1, 1856	Stated Supply.	Minneapolis, "	Jackson Association Mich.
Fiske, A. S..	June 6, 1860	Pastor.	St. Paul, "	Central Minnesota.
Fox, A. K.....	Oct. 25, 1859	Stated Supply.	Monticello, "	West. N. Y. Consociation.
Galpin, Charles.....	Septem. 1844	Without Charge	Excelsior, "	Central Minnesota.
Hall, Richard.....	August 8, 1850	Agt. A. H. M. S.	Point Douglas, "	" "
Hall, Sherman.....	June 1831	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids, "	" "
Harrison, C. S.....	Dec, 7, 1858	Missionary.	Sauk Centre, "	" "
Jenkins, Jenkin...	1832	Stated Supply.	Butternut Val'y "	Madison Dis. Conv. Wis.
McHose, James.....		Missionary.	Brownsville, "	
Morgan, H. H.....	June 7, 1841	"	Wabashaw, "	Central Minnesota.
Newton, Ezra.....	March 1, 1848	Stated Supply.	High Forest, "	" "
Packard, A. K.....	Dec. 16, 1851	Pastor.	Anoka, "	" "
Putnam, Simon....	May 2, 1847	Stated Supply.	Afton, "	" "
Rounce, J. S.	February 1852	" "	Northfield, "	Fox River Union, Ill.
Seccombe, Charles	Aug. 8, 1850	Pastor.	St. Anthony, "	Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles.....	March, 1842	Stated Supply.	Wasioja, "	Southern Minnesota.
Sheldon, C. B.....	Oct. 9, 1851	Pastor Elect.	Excelsior, "	Central Minnesota.
Snell, W. W.....	Oct. 16, 1859	Stated Supply.	Rushford, "	Southern Minnesota.
Spaulding, George	July, 1848	" "	Marine, "	Central Minnesota.
Sterry, Dewitt C...	January, 1836	" "	Lake City, "	Western Reserve, Ohio.
Strong, J. C.....	Dec. 16, 1846	" "	St. Charles, "	Mitchell, Iowa.
Thomas, O. A.....	Aug. 27, 1853	" "	Clinton Falls, "	Southern Minnesota.
Tracy, Ira.....	October, 1832	" "	Spring Valley, "	" "
Twichell, Royal...	Jan'y 12, 1842	" "	Anoka, "	" "
Willard, Henry.....	Oct. 6, 1858	" "	Zumbrota, "	" "
Willey, Austin.....	May 18, 1859	Without Charge	Anoka, "	Central Minnesota.
Williams, J. N.....	1847	Stated Supply.	Lake City, "	Southern Minnesota.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS OF WISCONSIN CONNECTED WITH MINNESOTA CONFERENCE.

Hurlbut, T. B.... ...	October, 1833	Stated Supply.	Hammond, Wis.	Southern Illinois.
McLeod, Norman.	February 1848	" "	Prescott, "	Central Minnesota.
Stevens, W. E.....	April, 1847	Pastor.	River Falls, "	" "
Woodruff, L. N....	Jan'y 6, 1858	Stated Supply.	Hudson, "	Royalton, Vermont.

With Charge,.....37
Without Charge,.....5
Agent of American Home Mission Society,.....1

Total,.....43

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

Congregational Churches in Minnesota,

HELD AT ANOKA, OCTOBER 10, 1861.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

SAINT PAUL:
OFFICE OF THE PRESS PRINTING COMPANY.
1861.

NOTICE.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Conference will be at Northfield, October 9, 1862. Preacher of the Opening Sermon, Rev. A. K. Fox. Rev. J. S. Whitman, Substitute.

The Central Association will hold a meeting at Prescott, Wis., the first Thursday in June, 1862, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Southern Association will meet at Winona, the third Tuesday in June, 1862, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Conference of Churches for Southern Minnesota will meet at Saratoga, the second Tuesday of January, 1862, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

MINUTES.

The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, held its Sixth Annual Meeting at Anoka, commencing Thursday, October 10, 1861, at 7 o'clock, P. M. The Opening Sermon was preached by Rev. A. S. Fiske, from Phil. iv, 6. Theme: The care of God our peace.

OFFICERS.

Moderator.—Rev. O. A. Thomas.
Scribe.—Rev. R. Hall.
Assistant Scribe.—Rev. Wm. B. Dada.
Recording Secretary.—Rev. C. B. Sheldon.
Statistical Secretary.—Rev. C. Secoombe, of St. Anthony,
Corresponding Secretary.—Rev. D. Burt, of Winona.
Treasurer.—Rev. A. S. Fiske, of St. Paul.
Auditor.—Dea. P. W. Nichols.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

Church at Anoka,	- - -	Rev. A. K. Packard.
		Dea. Samuel Greoge, Del.
" " Austin,	- - -	Rev. C. C. Humphrey.
" " Belle Prairie,	-	Rev. Wm. B. Dada.
" " Chanhassan,	-	Rev. C. B. Sheldon,
" " Clearwater,	-	Rev. Wm. Crawford.
" " Excelsior,	- -	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.
" " Faribault,	- -	Rev. L. Armsby.
" " Guilford,	- -	Rev. C. C. Humphrey.
" " High Forest,	-	Rev. E. Newton.
" " Lewiston,	- -	Rev. J. S. Rounce.
" " Little Falls,	-	Rev. Wm. B. Dada.
" " Malone, Wis.	-	Rev. Wm. R. Stevens.

Church at Mazeppa, - - Rev. H. Willard.
" " Medford, - - Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " Minneapolis, - Rev. D. Eastman.
R. J. Baldwin, Del.
" " Monticello, - Rev. A. K. Fox.
N. Tenney, Del.
" " Northfield, - Rev. J. S. Rounds.
" " Oreno, - - Rev. A. K. Fox.
" " Owatonna, - Rev. O. A. Thomas.
" " Prescott, Wis. ——— ———
Rev. R. Hall, Del.
" " Princeton, - Rev. L. C. Gilbert.
" " Riv. Falls, Wis. Rev. Wm. R. Stevens.
" " Rochester, - Rev. J. S. Whitman.
" " St. Anthony, - Rev. C. Slocomb.
" " St. Paul, - - Rev. A. S. Fiske,
Dea. P. W. Nichols, Del.
" " Waterford, - Rev. J. S. Rounds.
" " Winona, - - Rev. D. Burt.
" " Zumbrota, - Rev. H. Willard.
I. C. Stearns, Del.

Members without Pastoral Charge.

Rev. C. S. Harrison, Rev. Royal Twichell, Rev. Austin Willey.

Honorary Members.

Rev. J. L. Seymour, Rev. Saml. B. Forbes, Rev. —— Palmer.

FRIDAY.

Morning Session.

Conference assembled at nine o'clock, and spent one half hour—the time voted to be set apart for this purpose before each session—in devotional exercises.

The remainder of the session till twelve o'clock, was occupied in hearing reports from ministers and delegates, of the religious condition and progress of the different churches and missionary fields represented.

Bros. Burt, Willey, and Armsby, were appointed a committee on resolutions.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at two o'clock.

Rev. J. L. SEYMOUR addressed the Conference as delegate from the Congregational Conference of Ohio, presenting the Christian salutations of that body, and giving interesting statements in regard to its progress.

The address was appropriately responded to by the Moderator in behalf of the Conference.

Letters were read from Rev. JOHN A. PERRY, delegate from the Congregational Conference of Maine, and Rev. ROBERT C. LEARNED, delegate from the General Association of Conn.

The committee on the subject of a Religious Paper, reported as follows:

The Committee on the subject of a Religious Newspaper, report:

That while they have had the object constantly in view, and sought occasion to carry it into effect, none deemed practicable has appeared. Still it is a moral necessity of the State, which must be supplied at an early day. Minnesota cannot afford to have its moral power so greatly impaired by want of proper expression as at present. The religious presses of the country are too distant to do our work. If States like Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, with the ablest papers within a few hours of every door, cannot do without religious papers of their own, what can we do one thousand miles distant? So far from the ocean, our vast lake reservoirs alone preserve the West from aridity, and make it the garden of the world. And the question with us lies between moral reservoirs and sterilty. Without our own papers the moral work of the State can no more be done than the political.

The Committee have such propositions from responsible publishers at the most important points in the State, as to be able to state that a paper answering our wants can be sustained on 800 circulation at $2.00 a copy—a number exceeded by some of our county political papers! We recommend that the subject be again referred, to await a more auspicious condition of the country, if not of religious enterprise.

In behalf of the Committee, A. WILLEY.

Report accepted and adopted.

The subject was recommitted to the same committee, (Bros. WILLEY, BURT, and SECCOMBE,) to report further next year.

The committee to correspond with the Connecticut Missionary Society reported. Report accepted.

The committee on Rev. E. D. NEILL's proposition respecting a Professorship in the State University reported, recommending that the matter referred to them be deferred till after the war.

The committee on Printing and Finance reported, showing the liabilities of the Conference all paid, and a balance of $3.25 in the treasury.

Rev. D. BURT, in behalf of the trustees of the Widow's and Orphan's Aid Society, made their first Annual Report. Report accepted.

The Corresponding Secretary reported as follows:

REPORT OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Dear Brethren: In many of our congregations a few conversions have occurred, and in one or two instances, enough to deserve the name of Revivals. It is recommended that we make an earnest effort to increase our spirituality, and that the last day of the present year be a solemn fast for this purpose. The aggregate membership of our churches is but little larger than last year, and only two new churches have been organized. In several places the people have been obliged to defer plans for erecting meeting houses. We generally maintain the ground already occupied, yet in a few instances missionaries have been obliged to leave their fields or attempt to live without bread. The "war spirit" need not be unfavorable to religion. Those who have disliked the sterner doctrines of the Bible must admit that they are quite as just as the "military necessities" which they are sanctioning. We can preach on the character and penalty of the Divine Law, on the rebellious nature of sin, and passing events will illustrate our words. Let us be willing to suffer in this great contest between Absolutism and Freedom. It will increase the likeness of our piety to that Puritanism which was born in the civil conflict of the English Reformation. We shall live—and on the return of peace, be stronger than ever for our mission in the West.

D. BURT,
Corresponding Secretary.

Report accepted and adopted.

The committee on Tract distribution reported. Report accepted.

The committee on Manuals of Congregational Usage, recommended that prepared by Rev. ENOCH POND.*

Voted, to print five hundred copies of the Minutes.

Voted, to devote the evening to a social interview and collation, prepared for the Conference by the young ladies of the Congregational Church and congregation.

SATURDAY.

MORNING SESSION.

Met at nine o'clock.

The committee on Place and Preacher reported, recommending Northfield as the place of next meeting, and Rev. A. K. FOX, as principal, and Rev. J. S. WHITMAN, alternate Preacher.

The following resolution was introduced by Rev. A. WILLEY, and its adoption moved and seconded:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Conference it is expedient that a State Home Missionary Society should be organized in Minnesota.

After discussion, the subject was referred to a committee consisting of Bros. WILLEY, ARMSBY, and HALL, to report at the next annual meeting.

The committee on resolutions reported.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at two o'clock.

The report of the committee on resolutions was taken up.

After discussion and slight modification, the resolutions reported were adopted, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That we deeply deplore the early death of Rev. JAMES McHOSE, of Brownsville, whose good ability and devoted piety had led us

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* These Manuals are in the hands of the committee for sale, at 14 to 16 cents per copy. Rev. A. S. Fitz, St. Paul, Chairman Committee.

to form high expectations of his usefulness in the ministry. That we tender our sympathy to his bereaved family and people.

2. *Resolved*, That this Conference regards the act of our Legislature, passed winter before last, for the encouragement of the manufacture of Beer in this State, as being directly opposed to the moral and material welfare of society, and the honor of the State. That Beer probably induces more intemperance in this and other countries than any other form of intoxicating liquor, and the act should have been entitled, *An Act to Encourage Intemperance in Minnesota!* We hold it to be our religious duty to condemn it; and we invite all other religious bodies, and all good citizens to join us in urging its repeal; and in demanding that our Legislature interpose *obstacles* and not provide *facilities* for Minnesota to become an intemperate and thereby ruined State.

3. *Resolved*, That while we deplore any war as a fearful evil, and an unnecessary war as a fearful crime, we regard the present national conflict, begun by traitors, as one which we could not have avoided without the sacrifice of manhood and Christian principle.

4. *Resolved*, That the better Christians men are, the better patriots, and that religious men must be expected to be specially ready to give themselves, their children, and their property, to the support of our government in the present crisis.

5. *Resolved*, Believing our brother, Rev. NORMAN MCLEOD, to have qualifications which specially fit him for military life, we think he may be able *at this time* to do more for God and our country in the army, than in the ministry; and we extend to him our sympathy, our best wishes, and our prayers for his success in the new career which he has chosen.

6. *Resolved*, That our opposition to Slavery has only been increased by the new proofs given of its mischievous nature and inherent vileness, and that it is our hope that the institution which has caused this rebellion may utterly perish in the contest which it has induced.

7. *Resolved*, That we most heartily approve of Gen. FREMONT's proclamation respecting slaves of rebels, and we most earnestly hope and pray that all the legitimate powers of the government may be exerted not to protect, but to destroy Slavery; without the destruction of which there can be no permanent peace.

EVENING SESSION.

Preaching by Rev. J. S. ROUNDS, from Hosea vi, 1.

After the religious services, interesting remarks were made by Rev. C. SECCOMBE, concerning the annnual meeting of the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin, at Milwaukee, the A. B. C. F. M. at Cleveland,

Ohio, and the Triennial Convention of the Congregational Churches of the Northwest, at Chicago, which great Christian gatherings he had just attended.

Thanks were voted to the citizens of Anoka for the very comfortable and cordial manner in which the Conference has been entertained during its session.

The Committee of Arrangements having designated individuals to officiate in the different pulpits of the place on the morrow, and to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the Congregational Church, the Conference adjourned to meet at Northfield, the second Thursday of October next at seven o'clock, P. M.

O. A. THOMAS, *Moderator.*

R. HALL, *Scribe.*

WM. B. DADA, *Assistant Scribe.*

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

1. *Of Arrangements: to Prepare Business for the next Meeting.*—ROUNCE, ARMSBY, and THOMAS.

2. *Delegates to Foreign Bodies:*

General Conference of	Maine, - - -	C. SECCOMBE.
" "	Ohio, - - - -	C. B. SHELDON.
" "	Connecticut,	L. ARMSBY.
" Association of	Michigan, - -	W. B. DADA.
" "	Iowa, - - - -	D. BURT.
" "	New Hamp.	WM. CRAWFORD.
" "	New York, -	J. S. ROUNCE.
" "	Indiana, - -	A. K. PACKARD.
" "	Illinois, - -	E. NEWTON.
" "	Kansas, - -	H. WILLARD.
" "	Nebraska, -	C. C. HUMPHREY.
" "	Mass. - - -	J. C. WHITMAN.
" "	Oregon, - -	C. S. HARRISON.
" "	California, -	A. WILLEY.

General Convention of Wisconsin,- W. R. Stevens.
" " Vermont, - A. S. Fiske.
" Consociation of R. Island, - D. Eastman.

[The Conference voted that hereafter delegates be required to report to the next following Conference each year.]

3. *On Religious Paper.*—Willey, Burt, and Secombe.

4. *On Printing and Finances.*—Fiske, Burt, and Hall.

5. *On a State Home Missionary Society.*—Willey, Armsby, and Hall.

6. *Trustees of the Widow's and Orphan's Aid Society.*—Barnes, Armsby, Burt, Secombe, and P. W. Nichols.

7. *Statistical Secretary.*—C. Secombe.

8. *Corresponding Secretary.*—D. Burt.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. *To receive and indorse Application of Churches in this State, for Aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of that Society.*—D. Burt, of Winona, R. Hall, of Point Douglas, S. J. Smith, of Winona.

2. *To receive and indorse Applications from Churches, for Aid from the A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State:*—Central Association, A. S. Fiske, St. Paul, S. Hall, Sauk Rapids; Southern Association, D. Burt, Winona, C. Shedd, Wasioja.

[N. B. The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they are appointed at the request of the Societies in question.

3. *To Promote the Cause of Sabbath Schools.*—C. Secombe, of St. Anthony, A. Willey, of Anoka, P. W. Nichols, of St. Paul.

4. *To Promote the Cause of Tract Distribution.*—D. Burt, of Winona, A. S. Fiske, of St. Paul, L. Armsby, of Faribault.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Other members of associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of Octotober, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or the Pastor of the church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and, if desired, an Assistant Scribe shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, Resolutions, Printing and Finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place for the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ART. 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver, and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God; the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state, by voluntary transgressing the divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostasy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of

righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ, there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works, and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can, consistently, be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

ART. 1. This organization shall be called "The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society."

ART. 2. It shall be the sole object of this Society to procure, take care of, and disburse a fund for aiding the Widows and Orphans of deceased ministers of the Gospel, or indigent ministers and their families, who, in either case, have complied with the terms of Arts. 10 and 11.

ART. 3. The members of the General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, for any year, shall, for that year, constitute the members of this Society.

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall consist of Five Trustees, at least, three of whom, shall be clergymen, to be chosen for three years, at the annual meeting of the General Conference of our churches, from its members, in the manner preferred at the the time of election.

ART. 5. The Trustees shall organize immediately after their election, by choosing from their number, a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; and three of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 6. Special meetings of the Trustees may be called at any time and place, to transact any business which cannot be transacted by correspondence with each other; and they shall hold an annual meeting to examine accounts, records, reports, etc., at some time during the session of the Annual Conference of our churches, and previously to the report of their officers to the same.

ART. 7. The Treasurer shall be required to give bonds to the Trustees

for the faithful discharge of his duties, in a sum, equal, in the judgment of the Trustees, to the amount of funds to be intrusted to his care during his term of office.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the President to preside in the meetings of the Trustees, and to correspond, if thought necessary, with parties applying for aid; of the Secretary, to keep the records of the Society, to preserve on file all its papers, to submit the same, when desired, to the Trustees for examination, and to read before each Annual Conference of our churches, the records of the past year.

ART. 9. The Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the Trustees, shall invest the funds of the Society; and, if loans are made to individuals, take ample security in unincumbered farming lands. He shall also make disbursements to beneficiaries at the written order of the Trustees, signed by the President and Secretary, and present a written report annually to the General Conference, in which a full account shall be given of all receipts, investments, and disbursements for the time covered by such report.

ART. 10. The Trustees shall grant aid only to persons described in Art. 2, and recommended to them by at least two ministers of the gospel, or other reliable persons; and until the fund shall amount to $10,000, the appropriations to living indigent ministers, or their families, shall not exceed one-sixth of the increase of the fund for the preceding year, donations in real estate excepted; and one-third of such increase shall be the extent of appropriations to the families of deceased clergymen. The amount liable to be appropriated in any year, shall be placed on deposit, and, at the end of six months, the proper appropriations shall be made to all applicants received during that time; and then, the sum which remains unappropriated, shall be permanently invested; and so of the amount remaining after the appropriations of the next six months.

ART. 11. Any Evangelical minister of the gospel, with his family, shall be eligible to aid from the Society after commencing to pay into its treasury annually, not less than one dollar, and pledging himself to increase its funds by securing, if possible, legacies and donations in real estate or money. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the names of all persons complying with this rule, and an opportunity for making this contribution shall be given at every Annual Meeting of our Conference. Those not present at the meeting, shall forward their contributions to the Treasurer within three months, or forfeit their membership, unless excused by him for the neglect.

ART. 12. The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, in case of the dissolution of this Society, shall own and dispose of its funds, and shall have power to make any alterations in this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting; provided that such alteration shall have been proposed in writing and admitted for consideration by a majority vote.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1861.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	PRESENT RELATION.	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Andrews, David..	Jan'y 29, 1840	Without Charge.	Winona, Minn.	Southern Minnesota.
Armsby, Lauren..	May 27, 1846	Pastor.	Faribault, "	Central Minnesota.
Barnes, J. R.	1838	Without Charge.	Cannon Falls, "	Central Minnesota.
Blumer, Adam...	Feb'y 4, 1857	Stated Supply.	Shakopee, "	Davenport Ass. Iowa.
Boutwell, W. T...	1831	Without Charge.	Stillwater, "	.....
Burbank, J. E....	April 13, 1856	Stated Supply.	Carimona, "	Southern Minnesota.
Burt, David.....	Nov. 4, 1851	Stated Supply.	Winona, "	Southern Minnesota.
Cochran, J.....	January, 1841	Stated Supply.	Elgin, "	Southern Minnesota.
Cook, Stephen...	July, 1837	Without Charge.	Austin, "	Southern Minnesota.
Crawford, Wm...	May 2, 1861	Stated Supply.	Clearwater, "	Central Minnesota.
Dada, W. B.....	July 1, 1856	Stated Supply.	Little Falls, "	Central Minnesota.
Eastman, David..	.....	Stated Supply.	Minneapolis, "	.....
Elliott, S. M.....	Licentiate.	Stated Supply.	Spring Valley, "	.....
Fiske, A. S.....	June 6, 1860	Pastor.	Saint Paul, "	Central Minnesota.
Fox, A. K.....	Oct. 25, 1859	Stated Supply.	Monticello, "	West. N. Y. Consociat'n.
Galpin, Charles..	Sept. 1844	Without Charge.	Excelsior, "	Central Minnesota.
Gilbert, L. C.....	July 16, 1840	Stated Supply.	Princeton, "	Central Minnesota.
Hall, Richard....	Aug. 8, 1850	Agt. A. H. M. S.	Pt. Douglas, "	Central Minnesota.
Hall, Sherman....	June, 1831	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids, "	Central Minnesota.
Harrison, C. S....	Dec. 7, 1858	Missionary.	Sauk Centre, "	Central Minnesota.
Haviland, B. F...	Dec. 22, 1859	Stated Supply.	Cannon City, "	.....
Humphrey, C. C.	July 21, 1861	Stated Supply.	Austin, "	Southern Minnesota.
Huriburt, T. B...	October, 1833	Stated Supply.	Hammond, Wis.	Southern Illinois.
Jenkins, Jenkin..	1832	Stated Supply.	Buttern't Vy. Minn	Madison Dis. Conv. Wis.
McLeod, Norman.	February 1848	In the Army.	Prescott, Wis.	Central Minnesota.
Morgan, H. H....	June 7, 1841	Missionary.	Wabashaw, Minn.	Central Minnesota.
Newton, Ezra....	March 1, 1848	Without Charge.	High Forest, "	Central Minnesota.
Noble, P. A.....	Licentiate.	Stated Supply.	Saint Paul, "	.....
Packard, A. K...	Dec. 16, 1851	Pastor.	Anoka, "	Central Minnesota.
Putnam, Simon...	May 2, 1847	Stated Supply.	Afton, "	Central Minnesota.
Rounce, J. S.....	February 1852	Stated Supply.	Northfield, "	Fox River Union, Ill.
Seccombe, Chas..	Aug. 8, 1850	Pastor.	St. Anthony, "	Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles...	March, 1842	Stated Supply.	Wasioja, "	Southern Minnesota.
Sheldon, C. B.....	Oct. 9, 1851	Pastor Elect.	Excelsior, "	Central Minnesota.
Snell, W. W.....	Oct. 16, 1859	Stated Supply.	Rushford, "	Southern Minnesota.
Spaulding, Geo...	July, 1848	Stated Supply.	Marine, "	Central Minnesota.
Sterry, Dewitt C.	January, 1836	Stated Supply.	Lake City, "	Western Reserve, Ohio.
Stevens, W. K...	April, 1847	Pastor.	River Falls, Wis.	Central Minnesota.
Strong, J. C.....	Dec. 16, 1846	Stated Supply.	St. Charles, Minn.	Southern Minnesota.
Thomas, O. A.....	Aug. 27, 1858	Stated Supply.	Clinton Falls, "	Southern Minnesota.
Twichell, Royal..	Jan'y 12, 1842	Stated Supply.	Anoka, "	Central Minnesota.
Whitman, J. S...	Sept. 5, 1861	Stated Supply.	Rochester, "	.....
Willard, Henry..	Oct. 6, 1858	Stated Supply.	Zumbrota, "	Southern Minnesota.
Willey, Austin...	May 18, 1859	Without Charge.	Northfield, "	Central Minnesota.
Williams, J. N....	1847	Stated Supply.	Lake City, "	Southern Minnesota.
Woodruff, L. N...	Jan'y 6, 1858	Stated Supply.	Hudson, Wis.	Central Minnesota.

SUMMARY.

Pastors,	6
Stated Supplies,	29
Missionaries without Churches,	1
Without Charge,	8
Agent of the A. H. M. S.,	1
Total,	45

16

2

CHURCHES. REM.

Afton,
Albert Lea,
Anoka,
Austin,
Belle Prairie,
Butternut Valley, Wis
Cannon Falls,
Carimona,
Claremont,
Clearwater,
Cottage Grove,
Cotton Wood,
Elgin,
Excelsior & Chanhas
Faribault,
Gilford,
Glencoe,
Hamilton,
Hammond, Wis.,
High Forest,
Hudson, Wis.,
Lake City,
Lakeland,
Lemora,
Lewiston,
Little Falls,
Malone, Wis.,
Mantorville, — talent.
Mapleton,
Marine,
Maseppa,
Medford,
Minneapolis,
Monticello,
Nininger, — oken up.
Northfield, — Worship
Owatonna,
East Prairieville,
Prescott, Wis.,
Preston, — ons not reckoned.
Princeton,
River Falls, Wis.
Rochester,
Rushford,
Saratoga, — pleted.
Sauk Rapids,
Shakopee, (Ger.)
Sherburne Co.,
South Bend, (Welch)
Spring Valley,
Saint Anthony,
Saint Charles,
Saint Paul,
Tivoli,
Union.
Wabashaw, — he Spring.
Wasioja,
Waterford,
Wayland,
Whitewater Falls,
Wilton,
Winnebago City,
Winona,
Zumbrota,

Fourteen Chur — are 90; by Letter,
122. There have be — . The amount of
Contributions to obje — d for them.
Secretary.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own by-laws and regulations, subject to alteration at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or the Pastor of the church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and, if desired, an Assistant Scribe shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, Resolutions, Printing and Finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place for the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ART. 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver, and moral Governor of the universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness and truth; self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth; and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of the divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God; the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning; and that he has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state, by voluntary transgressing the divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostasy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to his wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of

NOTICES.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Conference will be held at Lake City, in Oct. 1863, commencing on the Second Thursday (8th day) at 7½ o'clock P. M. Preacher of the Opening Sermon J. W. MILLER.—Alternate, G. S. BISCOE.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at St. Anthony, in June 1863, commencing on the first Tuesday, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

PROGRAMME OF EXERCISES.

Opening Sermon.—G. S. BISCOE.— Alternate, C. B. SHELDON.

Essay.—Extempore Preaching.—J. R. BARNES and K. TWITCHELL.

Essay.—Were the Jews required to make public profession of faith and enter into Covenant with God personally before enjoying church privileges?— C. SECCOMBE and J. S. ROUNCE.

Essay.—Proper subjects of Baptism. L. ARMSBY and L. C. GILBERT.

Plan of a Sermon on John 3; 3— W. B. DADA.

Essay.—Terms of Communion.— W. R STEVENS and L. HALL

Essay.—Are the sufferings of this life in any degree penal?—G. S. BISCOE and C. B. SHELDON.

Essay.—Will the christian be clothed with his celestial body immediately after death?—A. K PACKARD and R. HALL.

Exegesis.—1 Peter 3: 19.—L. M. WOODRUFF and A. BLUMER.

The Southern Association will meet at Austin, the Third Tuesday of June 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Southern Conference will meet at St. Charles, the Second Tuesday of January 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M.

Opening Sermon.—W. W. SNELL.

Essayists.—CHARLES SHEDD, E. TEELE, and E. D. HOLT.

MINUTES.

The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, held its Seventh Annual Meeting at Northfield, commencing Thursday, Oct. 9th, 1862, at 7 1-2 o'clock, P. M. The Opening Sermon was preached by Rev. Charles Shedd, from 2 Thess. 2: 13.

OFFICERS.

Moderator.—Rev. C. Shedd.
Scribe.—Rev. H. Willard.
Assistant Scribe.—Rev L. Armsby.
Recording Secretary.—Rev. A. K. Packard.
Corresponding Secretary—Rev. D. Burt.
Statistical Secretary.—Rev. C Seccombe.
Treasurer.—Rev. C. Seccombe.
Auditor.—Dea. P. W. Nichols.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

Church at Albert Lea - - - Rev. J. C. Strong.
" " Anoka - - - - - - Rev. A. K. Packard.
" " Austin - - - - - - Rev. C. C. Humphrey.
" " Claremont - - - - Rev. C. Shedd.
" " Faribault - - - - Rev. L. Armsby.
Mr. James Gibson, Del.

Church at Gilford	- - - - -	Rev. C. C. Humphrey.
"	" Malone, Wis.	Rev. W. R. Stevens.
"	" Mantorville	Rev. C. Shedd.
"	" Marine	Rev. J. R. Barnes.
"	" Mazeppa	Rev. H. Willard.
"	" Medford	Rev. O. A. Thomas.
"	" Northfield	Mr. C. M. Goodsell. Del.
"	" Owatonna	Rev. O. A. Thomas.
"	" East Prairieville	Rev. B. F. Haviland.
"	" Prescott, Wis	Rev. J. W. Miller.
		Mr. W. Hatch, Del.
"	" Princeton	Rev L. C. Gilbert,
		Mr. K. K. McCune, Del.
"	" River Falls Wis	Rev. W. R. Stevens,
		Mr. G. W. Pratt, Del.
"	" Rushford	Rev. W. W. Snell.
"	" St. Anthony	Rev. C. Seccombe.
"	" St. Paul	Dea. P. W. Nichols. Del.
"	" Shakopee	Rev. A. Blumer.
"	" Wasioja	Rev. C. Shedd.
"	" Waterford	Mr. Moses Porter, Del.
"	" Winona	Rev. D. Burt.
"	" Zumbrota	Rev. H. Willard.

Members without Pastoral Charge.

Rev. R. Hall, Agent of the A. H. M. S., Rev. J. S. Rounce, Rev. A. Willey.

Honorary Members.

Rev. D. P. Noyes, Secretary of A. H. M. S.
" H. L. Hammond, Treasurer of Chicago Theol. Sem.
" E. Brown, Delegate from Convention of Wisconsin.
" A. Gale, Agent of Baptist Missionary Society.
" J. F. Wilcox.
" ———Rogers.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Conference met at 8 1-2 o'clock, and was opened with prayer.

Bros. Burt, Willey and Hall were appointed a committee on Resolutions.

Bros. SECCOMBE, WILLARD and ARMSBY were appointed a committee on Printing and Finance.

Rev. D. BURT reported attendance on the General Association of Iowa, and

Rev. W. R. STEVENS on the General Convention of Wisconsin.

Letters were reported as written to other bodies. Letters to this body were read from the Delegates of the General Conference of Maine and the General Convention of Vermont.

At ten o'clock, business was suspended and an hour was spent in Devotional Exercises.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Met at two o'clock. Prayer by REV. J. C. STRONG. Time till 4 o'clock was taken up in listening to reports from the churches.

Committee on Resolutions reported the following which were adopted :

ON THE DEATH OF REV. S. M. ELLIOTT.

WHEREAS, in the Providence of God, Rev. S. M. Elliott preacher of the Congregational church in Spring Valley, Minn., has been removed by death during the past year, therefore,

Resolved, That in the abundant labors, fervent piety and calmly triumphant death of brother Elliott, we have witnessed a remarkable illustration of the beauty and power of divine grace; that to his widow and the church in Spring Valley we tender our Christian sympathy in their bereavement; and that to each, a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Scribe of the Conference.

ON THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

1. *Resolved*, That in the events now working for the destruction of American Slavery, in the suicidal infatuation of its advocates, the

military orders of our Generals and the recent proclamation of our President, we recognize the purpose and the power of God.

2. *Resolved*, That while we wish our President had more clearly given expression to the fact that the face of God is against Slavery and more decidedly asserted that his own action against it accords with justice and righteousness, we will sustain him in his present course, by every lawful and possible means and pray that he may act with firmness and energy.

3. *Resolved*, That if Slavery is abolished and the South submits to the General Government, our work must be to seek the moral regeneration of our country, even of the North, from that corruption both in church and state, which has been induced by the long reign of slavery and demagogism and now threatens our national existence.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Conference met at 9 o clock and was opened with prayer.

Conference on Religious Paper reported. Report was accepted and discussed, resulting in the conviction that such a State Paper would be of great value, but could not be sustained at present.

The hour from 10 to 11 o'clock was devoted to prayer and conference.

Then H. L. HAMMOND presented the claims of the Chicago Theological Seminary ; after which the following resolution was passed.

Resolved, That we cherish a deep interest in the Chicago Theological Seminary, that we approve of those features in which its course of training for the ministry differs from our New England Seminaries, deeming it to be thus better adapted to the wants of the West; that we deem its success essential in order that qualified laborers may be furnished for our western harvest and that we recommend to all Congregational Churches in Minnesota to take up a contribution for the

Seminary once a year till the return of better times shall enable its friends to secure a permanent endowment for all its professorships.

Bros. Seccombe and Burt were appointed a committee to secure contributions from the churches to the Chicago Theological Seminary.

Rev. E. Brown presented the salutations of the Presbyterian and Congregational Convention of Wisconsin.

Voted, that the Reports from the churches be forwarded to the Corresponding Secretary, in writing, one month previous to the annual meeting of the Conference each year.

The Corresponding Secretary presented the following

Report on the State of Religion.

Dear Brethren: During the past year we have been called to exercise a new class of Christian virtues. Several churches have been scattered, if not destroyed by the outrages of the Indians on our frontier. In some other parts of the state, churches and congregations have become too weak to sustain public worship. This duty has taxed our oldest and strongest churches to their utmost ability, even with the aid of the Home Missionary Society. There have been no extensive revivals and but few additions to our membership since last year. Many of our members are called away to the army and our material strength goes to support the government in the prosecution of the war. Yet we shall live because Christ lives in us. It will appear in history that our churches, in this contest, have been true to the principles of human Freedom, have stood with our Christian fathers of the Revolution of 1776. Brethren, we shall survive this trial. The sympathies of God are with us and he will not let us perish. Be firm and faithful. After the regeneration of our country, our time of growth will come. In our 61 churches with a membership of 1539 and their 40 ministers, there is a vitality which the enemies of truth cannot quench, nor our war for Liberty exhaust. Here is the strength and patience of

the Saints. In this strength be strong, let this patience have its perfect work.

D. BURT,
Corresponding Secretary.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Met at two o'clock and opened with prayer. The committee appointed last year on a State Home Missionary Society, reported. The report was accepted, and, after discussion, was laid upon the table.

Bros. Burt, Secoombe and Thomas were appointed a committee to inquire what were the legal powers of churches, respecting the management of their own temporal affairs; and, if necessary, petition the Legislature on the subject.

Bro. Burt, in behalf of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society, presented their Second Annual Report, which was accepted.

The following Resolutions were presented and adopted.

In view of our dependence on God, for success in the great work of building up the spiritual Kingdom of Christ,

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to the churches connected with this Conference, the observance of a *week* of *prayer* for the outpouring of the Spirit, commencing with the first Sabbath of December next and that the last day of the year be observed as a day of fasting and prayer with appropriate meetings of the churches.

Resolved, That we tender a vote of thanks to the people of Northfield for the cordial and comfortable manner in which they have entertained the Conference during its session in this place.

Bro. Willey presented the subject of memorializing the Legislature on behalf of the subject of

Temperance; and was appointed a committee for that purpose. Voted to adjourn at the close of the evening service upon the Sabbath; which evening was to be given to the cause of Home Missions, the Conference to be addressed by D. P. Noyes, Secretary of the A. H. M. S.

Adjourned to meet again at Lake City, on the Second Thursday of Oct. 1863, at 7 o'clock P. M.

C. SHEDD, *Moderator.*

H. Willard, *Scribe.*

Lauren Armsby, *Assistant Scribe.*

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

1. *Of Arrangements; and to Prepare Business.*—Rev DeWitt C. Sterry, Burt, and Thomas.

Delegates to Foriegn Bodies:

General Conference of Maine . . . C. B. Sheldon.
" " " Ohio . . . . C. Seccombe.
" " " Connecticut R. Hall.
" Association of Michigan . D. Burt.
" " Iowa . . . . A. K. Packard.
" " New Hamp. J. S. Rounce.
" " New York W. B. Dada.
" " Indiana . . H. Willard.
" " Illinois . . C. C. Humphrey.
" " Kansas . . W. R. Stevens.
" " Nebraska . J. R. Barnes.
" " Mass. . . . C. Shedd.
" " Oregon . . J. W. Miller.
" " California J. C. Strong.
General Convention of Wisconsin A. Willey.
" " Vermont . L. C. Gilbert.
" Consociation of R. Island W. W. Snell.
Bap. Gen. Assoc. of Minnesota . A. K. Packard.

2. *On Printing and Finances.*—Seccombe, Willard, Armsby.

4. *Trustees of the Widows and Orphan's Aid Society.*—BARNES, ARMSBY, BURT, SECCOMBE, P. W. NICHOLS.

5. *Statistical Secretary.*—C. SECCOMBE.

6. *Corresponding Secretary.*—D BURT.

7. *On Temporal Power of Churches in Law.*—BURT, SECCOMBE and THOMAS.

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. *To receive and indorse Application of Churches in this State, for Aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of that Society.*—D. BURT, of Winona, R. HALL, of Point Douglas, S. J. SMITH, of Winona.

2. *To receive and indorse Applications from Churches, for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State:*—Central Association, C. SECCOMBE, St. Anthony, S. HALL, Sauk Rapids; Southern Association, D. BURT, Winona, C. SHEDD, Wasioja.

[N. B. The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they are appointed at the request of the Societies in question.]

3. *To promote the Cause of Sabbath Schools.*—PACKARD, WILLEY and DEA. P. W. NICHOLS.

4. *To promote the Cause of Tract Distribution.*—BURT, GILBERT and ARMSBY.

5. *To secure Contributions for the Chicago Theological Seminary.* SECCOMBE and BURT.

6. *Corresponding Secretary.*—D. BURT till Oct. 1865.

7. *Statistical Secretary.*—C. SECCOMBE till Oct. 1865.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply and one delegate. Other members of associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years; whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a committee of arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

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ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen in Christ before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the

mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ, there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works, and that from the judgment-seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers, of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can, consistently, be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

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CONSTITUTION OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

ART. 1. This organization shall be called "The Widows and Orphans' Aid Society."

ART. 2. It shall be the sole object of this Society to procure, take care of, and disburse a fund for aiding the Widows and Orphans of deceased ministers of the Gospel, or indigent ministers and their families, who, in either case, have complied with the terms of Arts. 10 and 11.

ART. 3. The members of the General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, for any year, shall for that year, constitute the members of this Society.

ART 4. The officers of this Society shall consist of five trustees, at least three of whom shall be clergymen, to be chosen for three years at the annual meeting of the General Conference of our churches, from its members, in the manner preferred at the time of election.

ART. 5. The Trustees shall organize immediately after their election, by choosing from their number, a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; and three of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 6. Special meetings of the Trustees may be called at any time and place, to transact any business which cannot be transacted by correspondence with each other, and they shall hold an annual meeting to examine accounts, records, reports, etc., at some time during the session of the Annual Conference of our churches, and previously to the report of their officers to the same.

ART. 7. The Treasurer shall be required to give bonds to the Trustees for the faithful discharge of his duties, in a sum, equal, in the

judgment of the Trustees, to the amount of funds to be intrusted to his care during his term of office.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the President to preside in the meetings of the Trustees, and to correspond, if thought necessary, with parties applying for aid; of the Secretary, to keep the records of the Society, to preserve on file all its papers, to submit the same, when desired, to the Trustees for examination, and to read before each Annual Conference of our churches, the records of the past year.

ART. 9. The Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the Trustees, shall invest the funds of the Society; and, if loans are made to individuals, take ample security in unincumbered farming lands. He shall also make disbursements to beneficiaries at the written order of the Trustees, signed by the President and Secretary, and present a written report annually to the General Conference, in which a full account shall be given of all receipts, investments and disbursements for the time covered by such rep rt

ART. 10. The Trustees shall grant aid only to persons described in ART. 2. and recommended to them by at least two ministers of the gospel, or other reliable persons; and until the fund shall amount to $10.000. the appropriations to living indigent ministers, or their families, shall not exceed one sixth of the increase of the fund for the preceding year, donations in real estate excepted; and one third of such increase shall be the extent of appropriations to the families of deceased clergyman. The amount liable to be appropriated, in any year, shall be placed on deposit, and, at the end of six months, the proper appropriations shall be made to all applicants received during that time, and then, the sum which remains unappropriated, shall be permanently invested; and so, of the amount remaining after the appropriations of the next six months.

ART. 11. Any Evangelical minister of the gospel, with his family, shall be eligible to aid from the Society after commencing to pay into its treasury annually, not less than one dollar, and pledging himself to increase its funds, by securing, if possible, legacies and donations in real estate or money. The Treasurer shall keep a record of the names of all persons complying with this rule, and an opportunity for making this contribution shall be given at every Annual meeting of our Conference. Those not present at the meeting, shall forward their contributions to the Treasurer within three months, or forfeit their membership, unless excused by him for the neglect.

ART. 12. The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, in case of the dissolution of this Society, shall own and dispose of its funds, and shall have power to make any alterations in this Constitution by a vote of two thirds of the members present a any annual meeting; provided that such alteration shall have been proposed in writing and admitted for consideration by a majority vote.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1862.

NAME.	ORDAINED.	PRESENT RELATION.	P.O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Andrews, David	Jan'y 29, 1840	Without Charge.	Winona.	Southern Minnesota
Armsby, Lauren	May 27, 1846	Pastor.	Faribault.	Central "
Barnes, J. R.	1838	Stated Supply.	Marine.	" "
Beekman, J. C.	Licentitate.	" "	St Charles.	
Bigelow Warren	Nov. 13, 1854	" "	Maseppa.	LaCrosse, Wis Con.
Blacoe, G. S	Oct. 25, 1861	" "	Cottage Grove.	
Blumer, Adam	Feb. 4, 1857	" "	Shakopee.	Davenport Ass. Iowa
Rountwell, (W. T.	1831	Farmer.	Stillwater.	
Burbank, J. E.	April 13, 1858	Without Charge.	Preston.	Southern Minnesota.
Burt, David	Nov. 4, 1851	Stated Supply.	Winona.	" "
Cochran, Jona.	Jan'y 1841	" "	Elgin.	" "
Cook, Stephen	July 1837	Without Charge.	Austin.	" "
Dada, W B.	July 1, 18 6	Stated Supply.	Little Falls.	Central Minnesota.
Fiske, A. S.	June 6, 1860	Chaplain.	4th Reg. Min. V,	" "
Galpin, Charles	Sept. 1844	Without Charge.	Excelsior,	" "
Gilbert, L. C.	July 16, 1840	Stated Supply.	Princet n.	" "
Hall, Richard	Aug. 8, 1850	Ag't A. H. M. S.	Pt Douglas.	" "
Hall, Sherman	June 1831	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids.	" "
Haviland, B F.	Dec 21, 1859	" "	Cannon City.	
Humphrey, C C.	July 21, 1861	" "	Austin.	Southern Minnesota.
Hurlburt, T. B.	Oct. 1833	" "	Hammond, Wis.	Southern Ill.
Miller, J W.	Licentiate	" "	Prescott, Wis.	
Morgan, H. H.	June 7, 1841	Missionary,	Wabashaw.	Southern Minnesota.
Newton, Ezra	March 1, 1848	Without Charge.	Preston.	Central "
Packard, A K.	Dec. 16, 1851	Pastor,	Anoka.	" "
Porteus, William	Licentiate	Stated Supply	Wyattsville.	
Putnam, Simon	May 2, 1847	" "	Afton.	" "
Rounce, J S.	February 1852	Without Charge.	Northfield.	" "
Salter, C. C.	April 2), 1851	Stated Supply.	Minneapolis.	Bureau Co., Ass., Ill.
Seccombe, Chas.	Aug 8, 1850	Pastor	St Anthony.	Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles	March 1842	Stated Supply.	Wasioja.	Southern "
Sheldon, C. B.	Oct. 9, 1851	Pastor Elect.	Excelsior.	Central "
Snell, W. W.	Oct. 16, 1859	Stated Supply.	Rushford.	Southern "
Sterry DeWitt C	Jan'y 1836	" "	Lake City.	" "
Stevens W. R	April 1817	" "	Rochester.	Central "
Strong, J. C.	Dec 16, 1846	" "	Albert Lea.	Southern "
Thomas, O. A	Aug 27, 1853	" "	Medford.	" "
Twichell, Royal	Jan'y 12 1842	Missionary.	Anoka.	Central "
Willard, Henry	Oct. 6, 1854	Stated Supply.	Zumbrota.	Southern "
Willey, Austin	May 18, 1856	Without Charge.	Northfield.	Central "
Woodruff, L. N.	Jan'y 6, 1858	Stated Supply.	Wabashaw.	" "

SUMMARY.

Pastors	3
Stated Supplies	25
Missionaries	2
Chaplain	1
Agent of the A. H. M. S.	1
Without Charge.	9
Total	41

CHURCHES.

Afton .....
[illegible] Lea .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible]stin .....
Belle Prairie .....
Bristol .....
Cannon Falls .....
Carimona .....
Claremont .....
Clearwater .....
[illegible] Grove .....
[illegible] & Chatfield .....
[illegible]sall .....
[illegible]ord .....
[illegible]ose .....
Hamilton .....
[illegible], Wis .....
[illegible] Forest .....
[illegible]n, Wis .....
[illegible] City .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible]ora .....
[illegible]ston .....
[illegible] Falls .....
[illegible], Wis .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible]opa .....
[illegible]ford .....
[illegible]napolis .....
Monticello .....
Nininger .....
[illegible]field .....
[illegible]tonna .....
[illegible] Prairie .....
[illegible], Wis .....
[illegible]ona .....
[illegible]ston .....
[illegible], Wis .....
[illegible]ter .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible]ville .....
[illegible]ford .....
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[illegible] Valley .....
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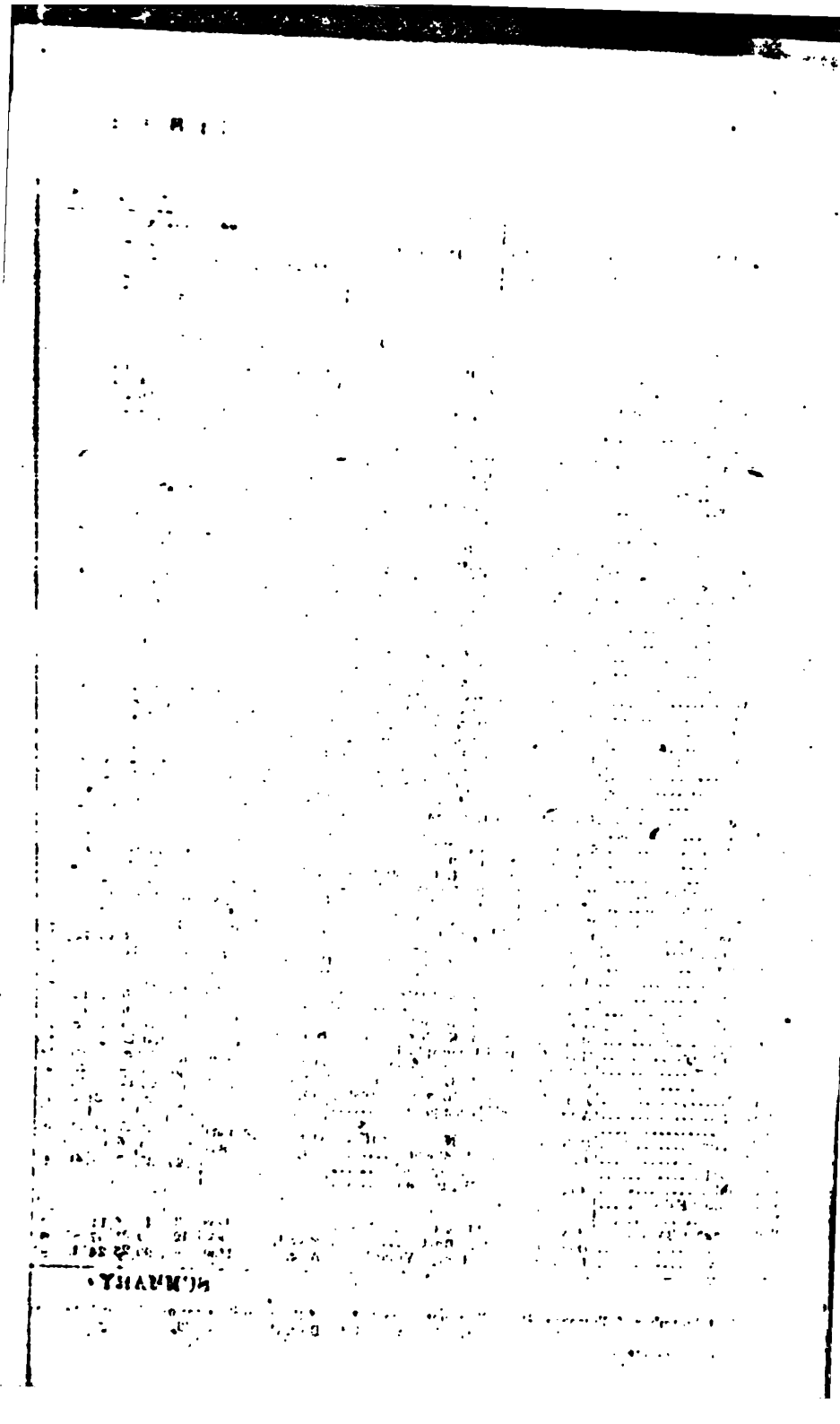
[illegible]tewater Falls .....
[illegible]n .....
[illegible] City .....
[illegible] .....
[illegible]a .....

Total number of C[illegible]
[illegible] Indian troubles.



MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF

Congregational Churches in Minnesota,

HELD AT LAKE CITY, OCTOBER 8, 1863.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

FARIBAULT, MINN.:
CENTRAL REPUBLICAN BOOK AND JOB OFFICE,
O'BRIEN'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET.

1864.

MINUTES.

The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, held its Eighth Annual Meeting at Lake City, commencing Thursday, Oct. 8th, 1863, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. The Opening Sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Miller. Text, Jn. xvii. 20 21.

OFFICERS.

Moderator,—Rev. W. R. Stevens.
Scribe.—Rev. George S. Biscoe.
Assistant Scribe.—Rev. J. W. Miller.
Corresponding Secretary.—Rev. D. Burt.
Statistical Secretary.—Rev. C. Seccombe.
Treasurer.—R. Whitney.
Auditor.—F. W. Andrews.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

Church at	Austin	Rev W S Clark,
"	" Bristol,	Rev E Terle,
"	" Cannon Falls,	Rev J N Williams,
"	" Clear Water,	Rev W B Dada,
"	" Cottage Grove,	Rev G S Biscoe,
"	" Elgin,	Rev H Willard,
"	" Excelsior,	James Washburn, Del.
		Rev C B Sheldon,
		W N Fuller,
"	" Faribault,	C Russell, Del.
"	" Gilford,	Rev W S Clark,
"	" Lake City,	Rev D C Sterry,
"	" Lewiston,	Rev J N Williams,
"	" Mantorville,	Rev C Shedd,
"	" Malone, Wis.,	Rev J A Wells,
"	" Mazeppa,	Rev W Bigelow,
"	" Minneapolis,	Rev C C Salter,
		G Harris, Del.,
"	" Monticello,	Rev A K Fox,
"	" Northfield,	Rev A Willey, Del.,
"	" Prescott,	Rev J W Miller,
"	" Preston,	Rev E Newton,
"	" Princeton,	Rev I. C Gilbert,
"	" Rochester,	Rev W R Stevens,
"	" Shakopee,	Rev A Bloomer,
"	" Spring Valley,	Rev L S Griggs,
		A H Billings, Del.,
"	" St. Anthony,	Rev C Seccombe,
"	" St. Charles,	Rev J C Berkman,
"	" St. Paul,	Rev J F Dudley,
		P P Furber, Del.,
"	" Wabashaw,	Rev L N Woodruff,
"	" Warren, Wis.,	Rev J H Wells,
"	" Wasioja,	Rev C Shedd,
"	" Winona,	Rev D Burt,
"	" Zumbrota,	Dea. Isaac C Stearns, Del.,

MEMBERS WITHOUT PASTORAL CHARGE.

Rev R. Hall, Agent of the A. H. M. S., Rev J. E. Burbank, Rev H. H. Morgan.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. J C Sherwin, Delegate from Convention of Wisconsin.
" D D Frost, Del. from Berkshire South Association, Mass.
" J Guernsey, Agent of A. H. M. S., in Iowa.
" H B Hooker, D. D., Sec. of Mass. Home Mission Society.
" G S F Savage, Sec. of the Western Agency of the American Tract Society, Boston.
" Philo Canfield.
" D Andrews.
" H C Hazen.
" M Sturgeon.
" William Spear.
" George Freeman.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The Conference met at 8½ o'clock, and was opened with prayer.

Officers were elected.

Bros. Willey, Russell and Sterry were appointed a Committee on Place and Preacher for the next meeting.

Bros. Seccombe, Salter and Harris were appointed a Committee on Resolutions.

Bros. G. S. Biscoe, J. F. Dudley and DeWitt C. Sterry were appointed a Committee on Printing and Finance.

The Conference then listened to Reports of delegates to other Conferences.

Rev. J. C. Sherwin, from the Association of Wisconsin, and Rev. G. S. F. Savage, from the Association of Illinois, addressed the Conference.

Letters were read from the Conferences of Ohio and Maine.

The time between ten o'clock and eleven was spent in Devotional Exercises.

Bro. Willey was appointed Committee to nominate delegates to foreign bodies with which we hold correspondence.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The Conference met at two o'clock, the session was opened with prayer, and the afternoon was spent in listening to the reports of the Churches.

Rev. G. S. F. Savage in the evening addressed the Conference on the subject of Christian efforts for the good of the soldiers in our army.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

A plan for a State religious newspaper was proposed by Rev. J. E. Burbank and after some discussion Bros. Hall, Guernsey and Harris, were appointed a Committee to confer on the subject. Their report recommending to the churches the *Iowa News Letter*, was accepted.

The Trustees of the Widows' and Orphans' Society made a Report. A Committee was appointed to nominated five Trustees. They reported and the Trustees were elected.

Rev. D. Burt as Committee on the temporal power of the Churches made a report.

The Committee on Tract Distribution, Bros. Gilbert and Burt, made oral report.

The Committee on Contributions to Chicago Seminary, Bros. Burt and Seccombe, made oral report of $43,35 collected and forwarded to the Treasurer of the Seminary.

The report of the Committee on Delegates to Foreign Bodies, was made and adopted.

Rev. C. Seccombe, Chairman of Committee on Printing and Finance for 1862 and 1863 made report, which was accepted.

Conference adjourned to 2 o'clock.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Conference met at 2 o'clock and the session was opened with prayer.

Bros. Willard, Biscoe and Newton were appointed a committee to nominate the Standing Committees for the ensuing year.

The Statistical Secretary made his report which was accepted and voted printed.

The Conference passed a vote of thanks to certain donors of books to the Home Missionaries and their wives.

The Committee on Standing Committees made their report, which was adopted.

Rev. D. Burt as Corresponding Secretary made the following

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Never have our churches been in a condition so hopeful as at the present time. From several whose report for some years past has been "We are depressed by debt, or suffering for want of a house of worship," the cheering news this year is "We have liquidated our debts; we have secured a sanctuary." The church at Minnesopolis has erected a house of worship at the cost of $3,000, and paid for it, with some aid voluntarily offered from abroad

receiving an addition of thirty members. The church at Zumbrota has built a house for itself at a cost of $2000, on which there is no debt. The church at Rochester has a plan for the erection of a brick edifice without involving itself in debt at an expense of $5000. The church at Winona has moved and repaired its meeting house, cancelled an old debt, and is soon to become self-supporting. A church has been organized at Plainview, Wabashaw County, with 28 members; another at Warren, Winona County, and still another at Warren, Wisconsin. Five or six accessions have been made from other States to our ministry, and yet five or six churches at important points are without ministers.

At Faribault, there have been some forty cases of conversion, mostly of adults; thirty of whom are heads of families. At other places conversions in less numbers have occurred, yet in many churches the number of members has not materially changed. No minister speaks of any insurmountable obstacles. The loyalty and patriotism of our churches has been fully vindicated. Copperheads cannot live in any of them. One-seventh of our male members have entered the army, and we have furnished three chaplains from our ministry. The whole number of our churches is sixty, and their total membership 1761. The additions amount to two hundred and forty-seven, one hundred and five of which have been on profession of faith. Our benevolent contributions amount to $938,88.

These are hopeful facts. In view of them we should thank God and take courage. True we could speak of some reverses and discouragements, but let us have a faith that will surmount them. We should not however rest satisfied with this outward prosperity. Our life as churches must be spiritual. To this fact let us have a single eye. Careful to hold ourselves above corruption from secular influences, let us be earnest, faithful and joyful in our work, and the future shall reveal spiritual results, in view of which our song shall be "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

D. BURT, *Corresponding Secretary.*

This report was accepted.

Rev. C. Seccombe on behalf of the Committee on Resolutions reported. His report was accepted and the Conference took up the resolutions one by one for separate consideration. After discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we thank Rev. G. S. F. Savage, Secretary of the American Tract Society, Boston, for his impressive presentation of the work of that Society in the army; and that we commend this cause anew to the prayers and benevolence of the churches.

WHEREAS, Dea. P. W. Nichols, of St. Paul, one of the Officers of this Conference, has recently been removed by death; therefore

Resolved, That Bro. Nichols' piety, devotion to the interests of Christianity, labor and anxiety for the prosperity of the Plymouth Church in St. Paul, and his peaceful death, furnish us another example of the inestimable value of faith in Christ; and that to his widow we tender our Christian sympathy, and that to her a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Scribe of this Conference.

Resolved, That we urge our churches and pastors to awake to the growing evils of intemperance in our State, and to use their utmost ability to overthrow this great evil, and particularly that we use our influence, as Pastors and churches, to promote the nomination and election of those men only who condemn intemperance, profaneness and all immorality.

Resolved, That we recognize in the present existing war in our land, on the one hand, the efforts of wicked men to overthrow one of the best Governments on earth, and to establish a pro-slavery despotism over the whole land; and on the other hand, the Providence of God engaged for the overthrow of oppression and for the establishment of justice and judgment in this nation.

Resolved, That we regard the protracted nature of the conflict together with all its incidents of successes and reverses, as a part of the divine plan for the ultimate triumph of truth and justice; that we believe and that we do earnestly hope and pray that the struggle will continue until that plan is perfected and

until the assurance is full that the stars and stripes while they wave over no less territory than before shall wave over no bondmen, but shall be an emblem to the nations of Liberty, Fraternity and Equality, of peace and good will to men and of Glory to God forever.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the Proclamation of Emancipation, assuring us of the overthrow of Slavery, and in the recent Letter of the President, pledging to the Freedmen the Faith of the Nation that they shall not be reenslaved.

Resolved, That the warmest gratitude is due to our Soldiers for their unwavering devotion to the Government, manifested in the sufferings of the camp, the battle-field and the hospital, and in their steadfast resistance to that disloyalty at the North which has sought by discouragements and party prejudice to decoy our national defenders from their allegiance. That to our soldiers and their families left destitute by the unselfish sacrifices of our brave men, we pledge our sympathy and aid.

Resolved, That in the cheerful endurance of suffering, the thirst after knowledge, and the undaunted heroism with which, in the face of inhuman tortures, the Freedmen have met their enemies and ours, we recognize conclusive proof of the fitness of the slave for freedom, and his claims upon the sympathy and defence of the American people against that spirit which, whether North or South, would deprive him of the common rights of manhood and citizenship.

Resolved, That our ministers and churches should give no support whatever, to such Secret Societies as are in their principles or practice antagonistic to the Gospel, and that we should aim to make Christianity through its existing organizations accomplish the human and benevolent ends which our secret fraternities profess to have in view.

After the adoption of the preceeding resolutions, the papers of the Church in Warren, were referred to a committee, who after an examination returned a favorable report and that church was received to the Conference.

Rev. C. C. Salter on behalf of a committee appointed by the chair presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That we petition the Legislature of this State to so change the law concerning marriage licenses that the man proposing to be married be required to take the oath of qualification for marriage before the clerk of the county court or some proper officer, and to obtain the license from the same source.

The resolution was adopted and Bros. Salter and Dudley appointed a committee to memorialize the legislature with reference to the change in the law.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The Committee of Arrangements reported exercises for the Sabbath and announced as the subject of discussion for the evening, "How can the masses of the population be best reached by the saving truths of the gospel?"

The discussion of this question opened by Bro. Salter occupied the evening.

After the exercises of the Sabbath, the Conference adjourn-

ed to meet at Rochester on the second Thursday of October, 1864, at 7 o'clock P. M.

W. R. STEVENS, *Moderator.*

GEO. S. BISCOE, *Scribe.*
J. W. MILLER, *Assistant Scribe.*

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

DELEGATES TO FOREIGN BODIES.

General Association of	Illinois,	C C. SALTER,
" "	Massachusetts,	D BURT,
" "	Iowa,	H WILLARD,
" "	Michigan,	WM B DADA,
" "	New Hampshire,	J C STEARNS,
" "	Iowa,	J N WILLIAMS,
" "	California,	A WILLEY,
" "	Oregon,	A K FOX,
" "	Kansas,	C SHEDD,
" "	Nebraska,	C GOODSELL,
" "	New York,	H H MORGAN,
General Conference of	Maine,	J F DUDLEY,
" "	Ohio,	J W MILLER,
" "	Connecticut,	C RUSSELL,
General Convention of	Wisconsin,	W R STEVENS,
Consociation of	Rhode Island,	J E BELL,
Baptist Conference of	Minnesota,	A WILLEY.

2 On Printing and Finance—BISCOE, DUDLEY AND STERRY.
3 Trustees of Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society—BURT, SECCOMBE, SALTER, MILLER and P. P. FURBER.
4 Statistical Secretary—C SECCOMBE.
5 Corresponding Secretary—D BURT.
6 On Marriage Law—DUDLEY AND SALTER.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

1 To Receive and indorse Application of Churches, in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of that Society—D BURT, of Winona, R HALL, of St. Paul, and S J SMITH of Winona.

2 To receive and indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State: Central Association—C SECCOMBE, St. Anthony, S HALL, Sauk Rapids; Southern Association—D BURT, Winona, C SHEDD, Mantorville.

[N. B. The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

3 To promote the cause of Sabbath Schools—PACKARD, WILLEY, AND HARRIS.
4 To promote the cause of Tract Distribution—BURT, GILBERT, AND DUDLEY.
5 Chicago Seminary—SECCOMBE AND BURT.
6 Corresponding Secretary—D BURT, till October, 1865.
7 Statistical Secretary, till October, 1865.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. The General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws—each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply and one Delegate. Other members of Associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members, by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers, who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion, within the limits of the Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballots, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and if desired an Assistant Scribe, shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing, and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of faith and covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ART. 1. We Believe there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver, and moral Governor of the Universe—a spiritual Being of infinite wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and truth—self-existent, independent and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of divine truth, and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three fold distinction of person in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and that these three are one God, the same in essence, and in all divine attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for himself; that known unto him were all his works from the beginning, and that He has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of his own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principles of the divine government, are perfectly, holy, just and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state by voluntarily transgressing the divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to His wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God is the only Redeemer of sinners; that he took our nature upon him, and by his sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men, so that God can now be just, and yet be the justifier of him who believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely; yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influence of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen in Christ before the world began, and that they are saved, not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ, there is no condemnation, and that they are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive the sentence of just and final retribution, according to their respective works, and that from the judgment seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers, of regular church standing only, can consistently partake of the holy supper, and that visible believers, with their households only, can, consistently, be admitted to the ordinance of baptism.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

ART. 1. This organization shall be called "The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society."

ART. 2. It shall be the sole object of this Society to procure, take care of, and disburse a fund, for aiding the Widows and Orphans of deceased ministers of the Gospel, or indigent ministers and their families, who, in either case, have complied with the terms of Articles 10 and 11.

ART. 3. The members of the General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, for any year, shall for that year, constitute the members of this Society.

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall consist of five Trustees, at least three of whom shall be clergymen, to be chosen for three years, at the annual meeting of the General Conference of our Churches, from its members, in the manner preferred at the time of election.

ART. 5. The Trustees shall organize immediately after their election, by choosing from their number a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, and three of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 6. Special meetings of the Trustees may be called at any time and place to transact any business which cannot be transacted by correspondence with each other, and they shall hold an annual meeting to examine accounts, records, reports, etc., at some time during the session of the Annual Conference of our Churches, and previously to the report of their officers to the same.

ART. 7. The Treasurer shall be required to give bonds to the Trustees for the faithful discharge of his duties, in a sum, equal, in the judgment of the trustees, to the amount of funds to be entrusted to his care during his term of office.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the President to preside in the meetings of the Trustees, and to correspond, if thought necessary, with parties applying for aid; of the Secretary, to keep the records of the Society, to preserve on file all its papers, to submit the same, when desired, to the Trustees for examination,

and to read before each Annual Conference of our churches, the records of the past year.

ART. 9. The Treasurer, with the advice and consent of the Trustees, shall invest the funds of the Society; and, if loans are made to individuals, take ample security in unincumbered farming lands. He shall also make disbursements to beneficiaries at the written order of the Trustees, signed by the President and Secretary, and present a written report annually to the General Conference, in which a full account shall be given of all receipts, investments and disbursements for the time covered by such report.

ART. 10. The Trustees shall grant aid only to persons described in Article 2, and recommended to them by at least two ministers of the Gospel, or other reliable persons; and until the fund shall amount to $10,000, the appropriations to living indigent ministers, or their families, shall not exceed one-sixth of the increase of the fund for the proceeding year, donations in real estate excepted; and one-third of such increase shall be the extent of appropriations to the families of deceased clergymen. The amount liable to be appropriated, in any year, shall be placed on deposit, and, at the end of six months, the proper appropriations shall be made to all applicants received during that time, and then, the sum which remains unappropriated, shall be permanently invested; and so, of the amount remaining after the appropriations of the next six months.

ART. 11. Any Evangelical Minister of the Gospel, with his family, shall be eligible to aid from the Society after commencing to pay into its treasury annually not less than one dollar, and pledging himself to increase its funds by securing, if possible, legacies and donations in real estate or money. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all the names of all persons complying with this rule, and an opportunity for making this contribution shall be given at every annual meeting of our Conference. Those not present at the meeting shall forward their contributions to the Treasurer within three months, or forfeit their membership, unless excused by him for the neglect.

ART. 12. The General Conference of Congregational Churches in Minnesota, in case of the dissolution of this Society, shall own and dispose of its funds, and shall have power to make any alterations in this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting; provided that such alteration shall have been proposed in writing and admitted for consideration by a majority vote.

NOTICES.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Conference will be held at Rochester, in October, 1864, commencing on the second Thursday (13th) at 7½ o'clock P. M. Preacher of the Opening Sermon DEWITT C. STERRY. Alternate, C. C. SECCOMBE.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at Excelsior, on Tuesday, June 7th, commencing at 7½ P. M.

PROGRAMME OF EXERCISES.

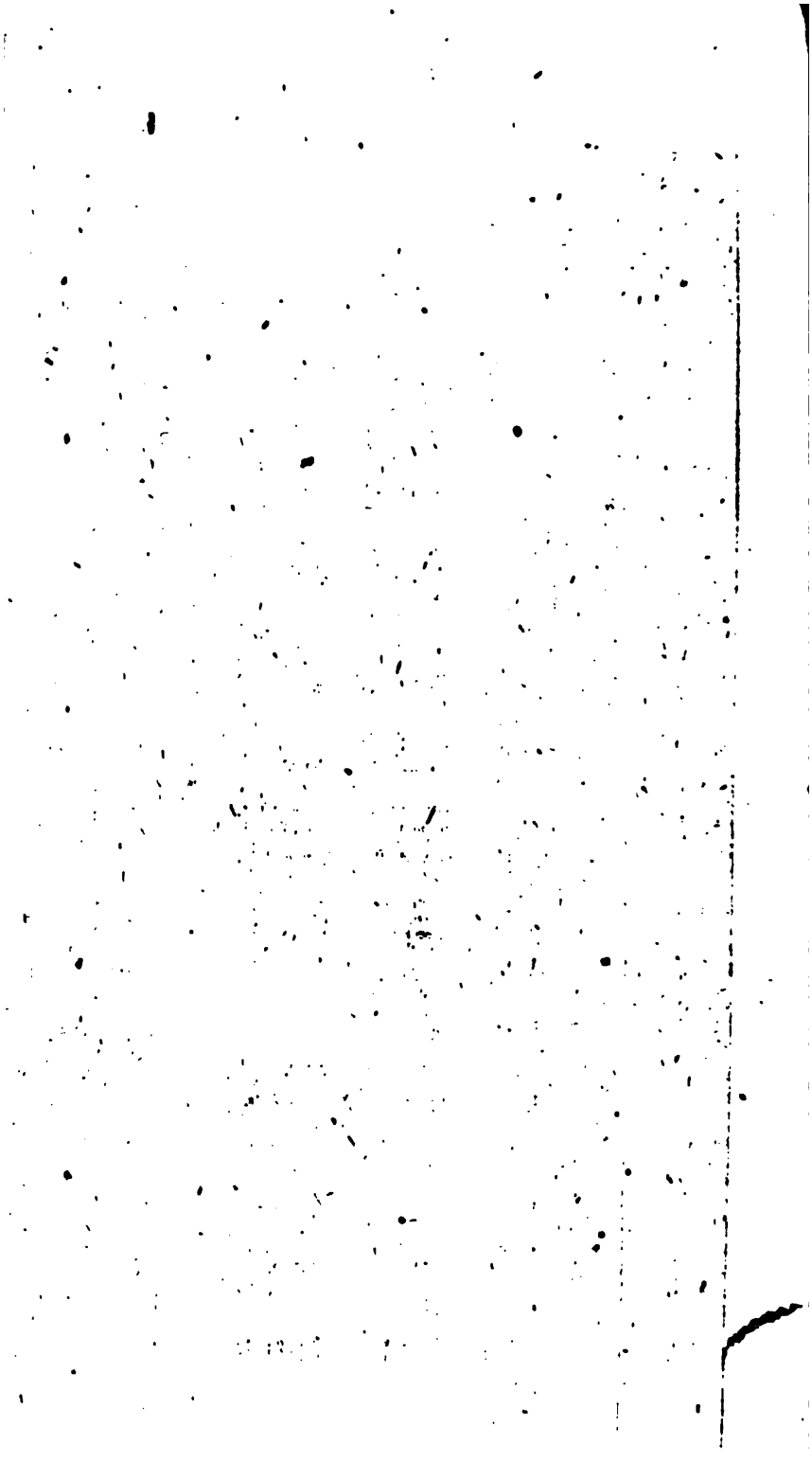
Opening Sermon.—C. C. SALTER. Alternate, A. K. PACKARD.
Essays.—Church Creeds.—R. HALL and R. TWICHELL.
Essays.—The Prayer Meeting.—W. B. DANA and S. PUTNAM.
Exegesis.—Rom. vii. 24, 25.—C. GALPIN and L. S. GILBERT.
Essays.—Pastoral Visitation.—WM. GILL and J. R. BARNES.
Plan of Sermon.—Luke xvi. 10.—A. BLUNT.
Essays.—Terms of Communion.—C. SECCOMBE and J. W. MILLER.
Essays.—The Prayer of Faith.—G. S. BISCOE and A. K. PACKARD.
Essays.—Inspiration of the Pentateuch.—C. C. SALTER.
Essays.—Christ's Millennial Reign; will it be personal? C. B. SAMSON.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1863.

NAME.	ORDAINED.		PRESENT RELATIONS.	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Andrews, David	Jan. 29,	1840	Without Charge.	Winona	Southern Minnesota.
Armsby, Lauren	May 27,	1846	Chap. 8th Reg.	Ft. Abercrombie	Central "
Barnes, J. R.		1858	Stated Supply.	Marine	" "
Beckman, J. C.	January	1863	" "	St. Charles	Southern "
Bigelow, Warren	Nov. 13,	1834	" "	Mazeppa	La Crosse Conference
Blecoe, G. S.	Oct. 25,	1861	Pastor.	Cottage Grove	Central Minnesota
Blumer, Adam	Feb. 4,	1857	Stated Supply.	Shakopee	" "
Boutwell, W. T.		1831	Farmer.	Stillwater	
Burbank, J. E.	April 18,	1858	Editor.	Preston	Southern Minnesota
Burt, David	Nov. 4,	1851	Stated Supply.	Winona	" "
Cochran, Jona.	June,	1841	" "	Elgin	" "
Cook, Stephen	July,	1847	Without Charge.	Austin	" "
Dada, W. B.	July 1,	1856	Pastor.	Clearwater	Central "
Dudley, J. F.	Licentiate		Stated Supply.	St. Paul	
Fiske, A. S.	June 6,	1860	Supt. Contrab'ds	Memphis, Tenn.	Central Minnesota
Fox, A. K.	Oct. 23,	1838	Stated Supply.	Monticello	West'n N. Y. Con.
Galpin, Charles	Sept.	1844	Without Charge.	Excelsior	Central Minnesota
Gilbert, L. C.	July 16,	1840	Stated Supply.	Princeton	" "
Gill, William	May 26,	1863	" "	River Falls, Wis.	" "
Griggs, L. S.	Licentiate		" "	Spring Valley	
Hall, Richard	Aug. 8,	1850	Ast't A. H. M. S.	St. Paul	Central Minnesota
Hall, Sherman	June	1831	Stated Supply.	Sauk Rapids	" "
Haviland, S. F.	Dec. 21,	1859	" "	Cannon City	
Miller, J. W.	May 26,	1863	" "	Prescott, Wis.	Central Minnesota
Morgan, H. H.	June 7,	1841	Missionary.	Wabashaw	Southern "
Newton, Ezra	March 1,	1848	Stated Supply.	Preston	" "
Packard, A. K.	Dec. 16,	1851	Pastor.	Anoka	Central "
Porteus, William	May 21,	1855	Stated Supply.	Wyattsville	Southern "
Putnam, Simon	May 2,	1847	Chaplain 3d Reg.	In the field	Central "
Rounce, J. S.	February,	1852	Stated Supply.	High Forest	" "
Salter, O. C.	April 20,	1859	" "	Minneapolis	" "
Seccombe, Chas.	August 8,	1850	Pastor.	St. Anthony	" "
Shedd, Charles	March,	1842	Stated Supply.	Wasioja	Southern "
Sheldon, C. B.	Oct. 9,	1851	Pastor Elect.	Excelsior	Central "
Snell, W. W.	Oct. 16,	1859	Stated Supply.	Rushford	Southern "
Sterry, DeWitt C.	June,	1836	" "	Lake City	" "
Stevens, W. R.	April,	1847	" "	Rochester	Central "
Strong, J. C.	Dec. 16,	1846	" "	Albert Lea	Southern "
Teele, Edwin	Oct. 18,	1852	" "	Bristol Centre	" "
Twichell, Royal	Jan. 12,	1842	Missionary.	Forest City	Central "
Wells, J. A.		1856	Stated Supply.	Hudson, Wis.	" "
Willard, Henry	Oct. 6,	1858	" "	Plainview.	Southern "
Willey, Austin	May 13,	1856	Without Charge.	Northfield.	Central "
Williams, J. N.	July,	1847	Stated Supply.	Cannon Falls	" "
Woodruff, L. N.	Jan. 6,	1858	" "	Wabashaw	" "

SUMMARY.

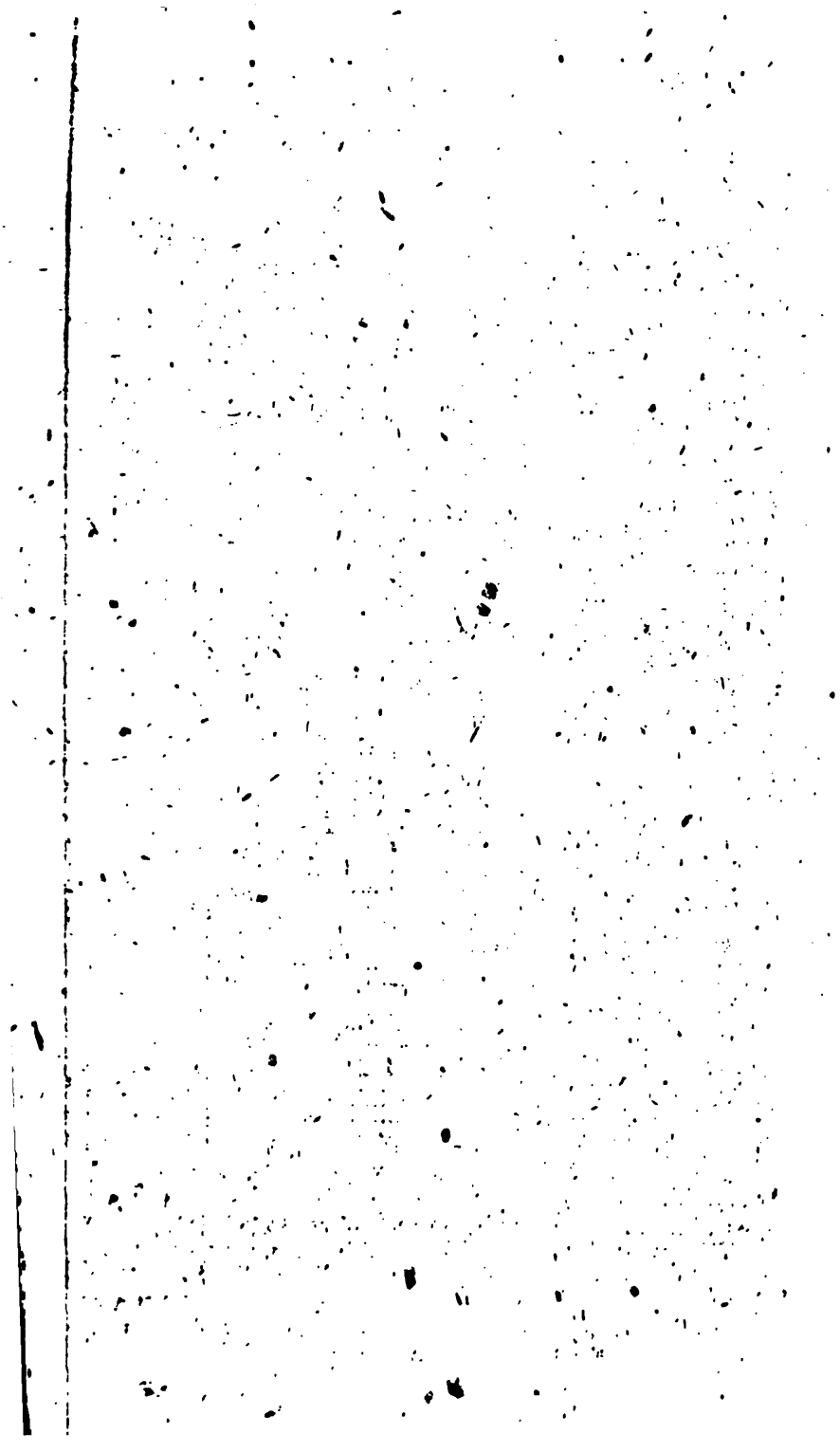
Pastors	4
Stated Supplies	29
Chaplains	2
Superintendent of Contrabands	1
Missionaries	2
Without Charge	6
Agent of the A. H. M. S.	1
Total	45



CHURCHES.	O
Afton	Jun
Albert Lea	Sep
Anoka	Ma
Austin	Jul
Bristol	Ma
Cannon Falls	Aug
Carimona	Ma
Claremont	Apr
Clearwater	Apr
Cottage Grove	Dec
Elgin	Apr
Excelsior and Chanhassen	July
Faribault	May
Guilford	Apr
Geneoe	Oct
Hamilton	Jun
Hammond, Wis.	Jul
High Forest	Jun
Hudson, Wis.	Aug
Lake City	Aug
Lakeland	May
Lenora	Nov
Lewiston	Feb
Malone, Wis.	Aug
Mantorville	Mar
Marine	Feb
Mazeppa	May
Medford	Oct
Minneapolis	Apr
Monticello	Mar
Northfield	Aug
Orono	May
Owatonna	Oct
Plainview	Oct
East Prairieville	May
Prescott, Wis.	Feb
Preston	May
Princeton	July
Quincy	May
River Falls, Wis.	Feb
Rochester	Jan
Rushford	May
Saratoga	July
Sauk Rapids	Feb
Shakopee, (Ger.)	Oct
Spring Valley	May
St. Anthony	Nov
St. Charles,	Feb
St. Paul	Jun
Sterling	Aug
Wabashaw	Feb
Warren	Jun
Warren, Wis.	Oct
Wasioja	Jun
Waterford	Apr
Wayland	Aug
Winnebago City	May
Winona	Dec
Zumbrota	Jun

*Colen.

S. S. Members, 1,944; Co
Deaths—in, adult, 38, infant,



MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT ROCHESTER, OCTOBER 13, 1864.

ST. PAUL:
DAVID RAMALEY, PRINTER.
1864.

NOTICES.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota will be held at Minneapolis in October, 1865, commencing on the Second Thursday, (12th,) at 7 o'clock P. M. Preacher of Opening Sermon, Rev. D. C. STERRY; Alternate, Rev. L. M. WOODRUFF.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at St. Paul, the First Tuesday in June, (6th,) 1865.

The Southern Minnesota Association will meet at Mantorville on the Third Tuesday of June, 1865.

The Conference of Southern Minnesota will meet at Wabasha, Tuesday, December 13th, 1864, at 7 o'clock P. M.

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF MINNESOTA.

MINUTES.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1864.

The Ninth Annual Session of the GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA, was held with the Congregational Church in Rochester, commencing on Thursday, October 13, 1864, at 7½ o'clock P.M.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. C. SECCOMBE, of St. Anthony—Text: Prov. 24, 10.

FRIDAY, 9 A.M.

Conference met, and was called to order by Rev. C. Shedd, of Wasioja, who led in prayer.

Proceeded to organize in accordance with the provisions of the By-Laws.

Rev. J. F. Dudley, of St. Paul, was chosen Scribe, and Rev. E. S. Williams, of Northfield, Assistant Scribe.

The names of the members of the Conference were enrolled.

ROLL.

Churches Represented.	Pastors & Ministers in Charge.	Delegates.
Austin		C. J. Short.
Anoka	A. K. Packard	
Albert Lea	J. C. Strong	
Carimona	E. Newton	
Cannon Falls	J. N. Williams	
Claremont	Charles Shedd	
Elgin	H. Willard	
Faribault	P. Canfield	
Hamilton and High Forest	J. S. Rounce	G. Carter.
Lewiston	J. N. Williams	
Mantorville	Charles Shedd	
Marine	E. W. Merrill	
Mazeppa	W. Bigelow	A. H. Goodell.
Medford		R. G. Lincoln.
Minneapolis	C. C. Salter	S. W. Livingston.
Northfield	E. S. Williams	C. M. Goodsell.
Owatonna	C. L. Tappan	C. A. Strong.
Plainview	H. Willard	
East Prairieville	B. F. Haviland	Abner Beardsley.
Preston	E. Newton	
Princeton	L. C. Gilbert	
Quincy		E. B. Daniels.
Rochester		R. Whitney.
Rushford	W. W. Snell	
Saratoga	G. H. Clark	
Sterling	N. A. Hunt	
St. Anthony	C. Soccombe	
St. Paul	J. F. Dudley	Rev. R. Hall,
Wabashaw		W. W. McDougal.
Warren and Wayland	W. Porteus	
Wasioja	Charles Shedd	S. S. Beckwith.
Winona	D. Burt	Rev. D. Andrews.
Zumbrota	Edward Brown	Josiah Thompson.

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

Rev. A. Morse, Central West Association, Illinois.
Rev. J. Guernsey, General Association of Iowa.
Rev. D. M. Mason, Baptist Conference of Minnesota.

C. M. Goodsell, of Northfield, was elected Moderator by ballot.

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were appointed:

Place and Preacher for next Meeting—Rev. C. C. Salter: W. W. McDougal.

Correspondence with other Religious Bodies—Rev. J. C. Strong.

Resolutions—Rev. C. Soccombe, Rev. D. Andrews, R. G. Lincoln.

Finance and Printing—Rev. J. F. Dudley, Rev. A. K. Packhard, Rev. C. C. Salter.

Arrangements—Rev. C. Seccombe, Rev. R. Hall, Rev. H. Willard.

The Constitution and Rules of the Conference were read.

On motion of Rev. D. Burt, of Winona, voted, That devotional exercises occupy the hour from ten to eleven of each morning session.

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.—*Devotional Exercises.*—The Moderator led in prayer. United in singing—

Oh, 'twas a joyful sound to hear
Our tribes devoutly say.
—*Hymn 28th. Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book.*

The remainder of the hour was devoted to prayer and conference, and the exercises were made more interesting and solemn by the reference made to members of the Conference deceased during the past year.

After singing, the business of the Conference was resumed.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK.—Rev. E. Brown, Rev. R. Hall and C. J. Short, were appointed a committee to prepare obituary notices of Rev. S. Putnam, Rev. J. Cochran and Rev. S. Cook, to be read before the Conference and published in the minutes.

On motion of R. Whitney, voted, That the resident clergymen of Rochester, Rev. D. M. Mason, Baptist, Rev. George Amslee and Rev. Mr. Jackson, Presbyterian, and Rev. Mr. Farber, Methodist, be invited to sit as honorary members of the Conference.

Rev. A. Morse, of the Central West Association, Illinois, was introduced and presented the salutations of that body.

Rev. E. Brown, of Zumbrota, recently a resident of Wisconsin, reported from the General Convention of that State.

Rev. D. Burt read a letter from the General Convention of Vermont, expressing Christian love and fellowship.

Reports of delegates to Corresponding Bodies were received.

The Committee on Place and Preacher for next year, made the following report, which was adopted:

Place—Minneapolis.
Preacher—Rev. D. C. Sterry, of Lake City.
Alternate—Rev. L. M. Woodruff, of Wabashaw.

Report of the Committee on Finance and Printing was received and adopted; and, in accordance with the recommendation made in it, that more efficient measures be taken than heretofore to raise money to defray the expenses of printing the minutes.

On motion of Rev. C. C. Salter, voted, That a tax of four cents per member be levied on the churches, to defray the expenses of the publication of the minutes of the Conference.

Adjourned to two o'clock, P.M.

Two o'Clock, P.M.—Prayer by Rev. D. Burt.

The first part of the session was occupied by ministers and delegates in reporting upon the present condition and future prospects of their respective churches.

After listening to reports from more than half of the churches, Conference voted that the reports of the remainder be given Saturday morning.

Sung:

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love.
—*Hymn*, 857, *Sab. Hymn and Tune Book*.

Voted, That Rev. A. Gale, Baptist State Missionary, be invited to sit with us as an honorary member.

Rev. J. F. Dudley was elected treasurer, and R. J. Baldwin, of Minneapolis, auditor of the Conference.

Rev. D. Burt offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we cordially endorse the plan proposed by other States, of holding a National Congregational Convention at some early date.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to represent us personally or by letter, in the preliminary meeting, to be held in New York, Nov. 16th, with reference to a General Congregational Convention, and that the same committee be authorized to represent us, personally or otherwise, in that Convention, should it be held previous to our next annual meeting, and its terms of membership render such representation possible.

In accordance with these resolutions, a committee was appointed, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Seccombe, Burt and Packard.

On motion of Rev. C. Seccombe, voted: That in addition to the committee already appointed, we hope that as many members

of this Conference as can be admitted on the basis of representation that shall be adopted, do attend, and that they are hereby accredited by this Conference; and that the Moderator and Scribe be authorized to call a special meeting of the Conference, if necessary, to make arrangements for representing the Conference in the National Convention.

Voted to adjourn.

FRIDAY EVENING, 7½ O'CLOCK.—Rev. A. K. Packard assisted in the introductory exercises. Sermon by Rev. C. C. Salter. Text—Ps. 66: 13, 14.

SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Prayer by Rev. D. Andrews.

Reports were made by the Committees on Tract Distribution, Sabbath Schools, and the Chicago Theological Seminary.

Other arrangements having been made for advancing the interests of these objects it was recommended that no committees be appointed for the next year. Reports adopted.

The report of the Statistical Secretary was received and adopted.

The Conference was addressed by Rev. D. M. Mason, delegate from the Baptist State Conference, and by Rev. J. Guernsey of the Iowa General Association.

Voted: that Rev. D. Burt of Winona, Rev. R. Hall of St. Paul, and S. J. Smith of Winona, be reappointed as the Committee to receive and endorse applications of Churches in this State for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of that Society.

Rev. R. Hall presented a letter from Prof. S. C. Bartlett relative to the Western Education Society. Voted: that it be referred to a committee of three consisting of Bros. Hall, Newton, and Beckwith.

10 o'CLOCK.—Devotional exercises one hour, led by Bro. Snell.

11 o'CLOCK.—Received and adopted report of the Treasurer of Widows and Orphans' Society.

Remainder of session spent in hearing reports from the churches.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

SATURDAY, P. M.—Conference met at 2 o'clock, and was called to order by the Moderator.

Sung—

"Nearer my God to Thee."

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Guernsey of Iowa.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary on the State of Religion was received and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the minutes.

Report of the Committee (Rev. J. C. Strong) on Correspondence was received and adopted after amendment.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of laymen be raised to inquire what can be done toward founding a College in this State for our denomination, and to report to the Conference of next year.

The committee was appointed, consisting of C. M. Goodsell of Northfield, R. Whitney of Rochester, R. J. Baldwin of Minneapolis, I. C. Stearns of Zumbrota, and S. J. Smith of Winona.

The Committee upon the Western Education Society reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Conference recommend that our churches adopt the Western Education Society located at Chicago, Illinois, as their organ for aiding indigent, pious young men in preparing for the gospel ministry, and that annual contributions be made in all our churches to this Society, and forwarded to the Treasurer, Lyman Baird, Esq., Chicago, and that we appoint a Secretary and Treasurer to solicit and forward anhual contributions from all our churches to this Society.

The resolution was adopted, and Rev. J. F. Dudley was appointed Secretary and Treasurer.

The Committee on Resolutions presented resolutions which were discussed and adopted.

Adjourned to 7 o'clock P.M.

SEVEN O'CLOCK, P.M.—The report of the Committee to prepare obituary notices of Rev. Messrs. Cochran, Putnam and Cook, was received and adopted; and it was voted that Brother Hall tender the Christian sympathy of the Conference to the families of the deceased.

The following resolution was presented, discussed, and referred to a committee of three, consisting of Brothers Lincoln, Dudley and Hall, who are to report at the next Conference.

Resolved, That our churches should be more deeply imbued with a missionary spirit; and, as a means of awakening that spirit, a Home Missionary Society should be organized forthwith.

Voted: That the thanks of the Conference be presented to Brother C. Russel, of Faribault, for his aid in procuring the printing of the minutes of the last Conference.

The minutes having been read and approved, the Conference adjourned for the Sabbath.

After the adjournment the members of the Conference, by invitation, attended a social gathering at the residence of Brother R. Whitney.

SABBATH DAY.

Sabbath morning, at nine o'clock, a prayer meeting was held in the Baptist Church.

At half-past ten o'clock public service was held in the same place.

Rev. J. Guernsey, delegate from the General Association of Iowa, preached.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered at the close of the Services to the Conference, Rev. D. Andrews, of Winona, and Rev. A. Morse, of Illinois, officiating at the tables.

The pulpits of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches were supplied during the day by ministers from the Conference.

In the afternoon, at the Methodist Hall, a Union Sabbath School Concert was held.

Addresses were made by Rev. E. S. Williams, of Northfield, Rev. A. K. Packard, of Anoka, and Brother R. G. Lincoln, of Medford.

In the evening, at the Baptist Church, there was a Missionary Meeting. It was one of the most interesting meetings held during the session of the Conference.

Rev. R. Hall, of St. Paul, Agent of the A. H. M. S. for Minnesota, Rev. J. Guernsey, of Iowa, Rev. E. Brown, of Zumbrota, and Rev. C. Seccombe, of St. Anthony, spoke.

Brother Seccombe, at the close of his remarks, by request of the Conference, spoke some very affectionate and encouraging words to the Rochester church.

The Moderator, in behalf of the Conference, thanked the Congregational Church and the citizens of Rochester for their kindness and hospitality; the members of the choir for their services, and the Baptist Church for the use of their house.

That good old hymn—

Jerusalem! my happy home—
Name ever dear to me.

was then sung, after which the audience joined with the choir in singing the Doxology—

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

The Benediction was pronounced, farewells were spoken, and thus closed the Ninth Annual Session of the State Conference of Minnesota.

C. M. GOODSELL, Moderator.
J. F. DUDLEY, Scribe.
E. S. WILLIAMS, Assistant Scribe.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

DELEGATES TO FOREIGN BODIES.

General Association of Illinois.....P. Canfield.
" " Massachusetts.....A. K. Packard.
" " Iowa.....W. W. Snell.
" " Michigan.....B. F. Haviland.
" " New Hampshire.....J. S. Rounce.
" " California.....G. K. Clark.
" " Oregon.....W. Porteus.
" " Kansas.....E. Newton.
" " Nebraska.....L. C. Gilbert.
" " New York.....H. Willard.
" " Connecticut.....D. C. Sterry.
" Conference of Maine.....C. C. Salter.
" " Ohio.....E. S. Williams.
" Convention of Wisconsin.....E. Brown.
" Consociation of Rhode Island.....J. N. Williams.
Baptist Conference of Minnesota.....D. Andrews.
Synod of Minnesota.....J. C. Beckman.
" " St. Paul.....Wm. Stevens.
Methodist Conference of Minnesota.....R. Hall.

On Printing and Finance.—Dudley, Packard and Salter.

Treasurer of Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society.—D. Burt.

Statistical Secretary.—C. Seccombe.

Corresponding Secretary.—D. Burt.

On Organization of a State Home Mission Society.—Lincoln, Dudley, and Hall.

On College—See page 8.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To receive and indorse Applications of Churches, in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society.—D. Burt, of Winona, R. Hall, of St. Paul, and S. J. Smith, of Winona.

To receive and indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State: Central Association—C. Seccombe, St. Anthony; S. Hall, Sauk Rapids; Southern Association—D. Burt, Winona; C. Shedd, Mantorville.

[N.B.—The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

Corresponding Secretary.—D. Burt, till October, 1865.

Statistical Secretary.—C. Seccombe, till October, 1865.

To solicit and forward annual contributions from the Churches to the Western Education Society.—J. F. Dudley.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1864.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	Ministers.	Commenced Labor.	Condition Sept 1, 1864.						Progress for one year previous.								Benevolent Contributions.	REMARKS.
				Average		Members.				Addi'ns			Removals.			Bapt			
				S. S. & Bible Class.	Congregations.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Profession.	Letter.	Total.	Death.	Expelled.	Letter.	Total.	Adults.	Infants.	
Afton	June 24, '58	C. Hall	Dec. 1, '63	40	60	5	12	17	5	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..		Contrib'ons to soldiers
Albert Lea	April 24, '59	J. C. Strong	Feb. 20, '62	30	50	2	19	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	$20 00	
Anoka	May 5, '55	A. K. Packard	March 9, '60			21	38	59	10	12	7	19	3	..	1	4	8	10	154.00	
Austin	July 6, '57	W. J. Smith	April 1, '64	60	100	16	21	37	5	2	2	4	..	..	3	3	..	..		
Bristol	March '59																			No report.
Butternut V. (Welsh)	Oct. '55	J. Jenkins	1856	20		7	10	17												
Cannon Falls	Aug. '56	J. N. Williams	April, '63	60	50	5	11	16	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	27.00	
Carimona	March '58	E. Newton	Oct. '63	30	30	3	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.00	
Claremont	April '60	C. Shedd	April, '60	30	40	2	6	8	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..		
Clearwater	April 20, '59	W. B. Dada	Nov. 1, '62	80	100	16	46	62	7	35	3	38	1	..	2	3	20	7	74.75	Revival in the winter.
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29 '58	G. S. Biscoe	Nov. '61	20	60	16	21	37	8	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	15.00	
Elgin	April 10, '58	H. Willard	Sept. 1, '63	U'n	35	10	16	26	3	2	1	3	..	..	4	4	..	..	30.00	
Excelsior & Chanh'an	July 17 '58	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55	55	125	32	45	77	10	6	3	9	6	..	7	13	2	3	119.40	
Faribault	May 31, '56			100	175	39	58	97	13	1	7	8	2	..	6	8	0	5	275.00	Church refitted.
Guildford	April, '60																			No report.
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57																			No report.
Hamilton	June 23, '60	J. S. Rounce	March 15, '63	80	60	10	13	23	2	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	45.00	
Hammond, Wis	July, '58	G. Spaulding	Feb. '64	50	100	15	17	32	5	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	2	..	40.00	Revival in the winter.
High Forest	June 21, '60	J. S. Rounce	March 15, '63	40	50	8	13	21	..	2	..	2	..	..	3	3	1	..	10.00	
Hudson, Wis	Aug. 6, '57	W. W. Thorp	1864																	No report.
Hutchinson	Feb. 7, '62	Unsupplied.		U'n		1	1	2												Sermon read.
Lake City	Aug. '56	D. C. Sterry	May, '56	100	125	29	54	83	5	13	3	16	..	..	2	2	6	3	150.00	
Lakeland	May 6, '58	C. Hall	Dec. 1, '63	50	70	4	10	14	2	2	2	4	1	..	2	3	1	..		Contrib'ons to soldiers
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57	G. Bent	March, '61	20	40	6	8	14	4	2	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	12.00	
Lewiston	Feb. 16. '59	J. N. Williams	April, '63	40	50	4	3	7	5	1	..	1	..	..	4	4	..	2	9.00	

Malone, Wis	Aug. 5, '60	J. A. Wells	Nov. 1, '63	30	50	8	12	20	2	7	..	7	1	..	..	..	7	3	6.00		
Mantorville	March, '58	C. Shedd	March, '58	100	150	7	13	20	6	..	4	4	..	..	1	1	..	..	28.00		
Marine	Feb. 8, '58	E. W. Merrill	May 22, '64	55	50	2	4	6	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	..	1	..			
Mazeppa	May 19, '63	W. Bigelow	Nov. 1, '62	U'n	50	5	14	19	3	..	2	2	1	..	..	1	..	2	56.00		
Medford	Oct. 25, '56	J. J. Gridley	Oct. 12, '64	85	75	12	21	33	10	..	..	..	1	..	4	5	..	..	15.00		House & bell paid for.
Minneapolis	April 28, '57	C. C. Salter	Oct. 26, '62	150	250	58	93	151	18	40	13	56	1	1	4	6	19	5	275.00		Revival, ded'n, inst'n.
Monticello	March 8, '56	A. K. Fox	1860	80	160	21	27	48	18	4	..	4	..	..	11	11	..	2	24.50		Most males in army.
Northfield	Aug 30, '56	E. S. Williams	March 26 '64	80	200	50	78	128	5	51	39	90	..	..	2	2	23	11	141.00		Revival.
Orono	May 11, '61	A. K. Fox	1860	40	90	4	4	8	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	7.00		
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57	C. L. Tappan	Jan. 31, '64	U'n	100	12	19	31	3	6	5	11	..	..	10	10	5	..	5.00		
Plainview	Oct. 7, '63	H. Willard	Sept, '63	U'n	80	12	19	31	2	2	29	31	..	..	..	..	..	2	25.00		
Prairieville East	May, '60	B. F. Haviland	June, '58	U'n	75	20	21	41	1	..	3	3	2	..	1	3	..	1	5.00		
Prescott, Wis	Feb. 15, '52	J. W. Miller	June 15, '62	70	80	41	49	90	86	1	2	3	1	..	4	5	1	..	30.00		
Preston	May, '58	E. Newton	Jan. 1, '63	30	50	4	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45.50		
Princeton	July, '56	L. C. Gilbert	Oct. 2, '59	20	30	7	9	16	5	..	..	..	1	..	3	4	..	..	40.21		
Quincy	May, '63	J. C. Beckman	May, '63	40	60	5	9	14	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.00		
Richmond, Wis	1864	J. A. Wells	1863	40	65	5	10	15	..	2	13	15	..	..	..	..	1	..			
River Falls, Wis	Feb. 3, '55	Wm. Gill	Nov. 1, '62	183	250	30	59	89	10	15	1	16	3	..	4	7	3	..	54.90		
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58	W. R. Stevens	Oct. 14, '62	55	100	15	30	45	5					1							
Rushford	May 12, '60	W. W. Snell	May 18, '55	35	53	5	10	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40.25		
Saratoga	July 25, '56	G. K. Clark	Oct. '55	75	100	15	18	33	2	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	128.00		
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 23, '55	S. Hall	Jan. 1, '55	20	50	6	7	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25.00		
Shakopee, (Ger.)	Oct. 1, '60	A. Blumer	Jan. 1, '60	22	50	5	9	14	2	1	..	1	1	..	2	3	..	4	34.75		Painted the Church.
South Bend (Welsh)	Dec. '59	J. Jenkins	Oct. '59	70		11	17	28											27.00		
Spring Valley	May 24, '56	L. S. Griggs	Aug. 8, '63	60	100	20	26	46	6	12	8	20	..	..	3	3	6	1	18.00		
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, '57	C. Seccombe	Oct. 1, '59	50	75	26	45	71	22	2	1	3	2	..	8	10	2	4	83.71		Church painted and [cleared of debt.
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '50	J. C. Beekman	Aug. 1, '62	60	100	8	22	30	1	5	4	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	56.00		
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64	Unsupplied.		'n	75	7	5	12	3	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..			
St. Paul	June 17, '58	J. F. Dudley	June, '63	80	125	15	33	48	10	..	10	10	..	..	4	4	..	..	75.00		Religious interest ;— [some conversions.
Sterling	Aug. '57	N. A. Hunt	Feb. '64	85	50	15	12	27	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	5	20.00		
Tivoli	Jan. 16, '60					6	5	10													
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57	L. N. Woodruff	Oct. 26, '62	50	80	25	43	68	18	..	4	4	1	..	2	3	..	1	57.26		
Warren	June 10, '63	W. Porteus	June 10, '63		60	7	6	13	1	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	4.20		
Warren, Wis	Oct. 3, '63	J. A. Wells	Sept. '63	30	40	5	8	13	..	3	10	13	..	..	..	..	3	4	6.50		
Waslola	June, '58	C. Shedd	June, '58	40	75	6	15	21	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.00		
Wayland	Aug. 30, '59	W. Porteus	Aug. 30, '63	22	85	6	8	14	..	1	1	2	..	..	4	4	1	3	4.45		
Whitewater Falls	Sept 1, '58																				No report.
Wilton	March 9, '59																				No report.
Winnebago City	May '59	J. E. Conrad, Presb.	Nov. '27			7	15	22													
Winona	Dec. 10, '54	D. Burt	May 1, '58	150	150	34	67	101	15	1	12	13	..	..	2	2	1	4	354.25		Church self-supporting
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	E. Brown	Aug. 15, '64	75	100	21	27	48	12	..	..	..	2	..	4	6	..	—	51.00		

Organized since Sept. 1, 1864. Nicollet, Sept: 10, '64—5 males, 6 females; Vernon Centre, Oct. 23, '64—males, 2, females, 2. Others will unite soon.

SUMMARY.

Whole number of churches 68 ; of which 7 are in Wisconsin. Whole membership, 2,140—826 males and 1,314 females. Whole number of additions, 458, to wit, 255 on profession and 193 by letter. Adult baptisms, 118 ; infant baptisms, 85. Contributions, $2,641.66. S. S. & Bible Class scholars, 2,787.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1864.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation.	Post Office Address	Association.
Andrews David.....	Jan. 29, '40.	Without Charge...	Winona	Southern Minnesota.
Armsby Lauren.....	May 27, '46.	Chaplain 8th Regt.	In the Field	Central "
Beekman, J. C.....	Jan. '63....	Stated Supply....	St. Charles.....	Southern "
Bigelow, Warren....	Nov. 18, '54.	"	Mazeppa.....	LaCrosse Convention
Biscoe, G. S.....	Oct. 25, '61.	Pastor.....	Cottage Grove....	Central Minnesota.
Blumer, Adam.....	Feb. 4, '57..	Stated Supply....	Shakopee.....	"
Brown, Edward.....	Jan. 13, '53.	"	Zumbrota.....	Southern Minnesota.
Burbank, J. E.....	April 13, '58	Editor.....	Preston	"
Burt, David.....	Nov. 4, '51..	Stated Supply....	Winona	"
Canfield, Philo.....	1847	"	Faribault.....	Wisconsin Gen. Conf.
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56..	Pastor.....	Clearwater	Central Minnesota.
Dudley, J. F.....	Licentiate..	Stated Supply....	St. Paul.....	
Fox, A. K.....	Oct. 25, '59.	"	Monticello.....	Central Minnesota.
Galpin, Charles	Sept. '44 ...	Without Charge...	Excelsior.....	"
Gilbert, L. C.....	July 16, '40.	Stated Supply....	Princeton	"
Gill, Wm.....	May 26, '63.	"	River Falls, Wis..	"
Gridley, J. J.....	.....	"	Medford.....	
Griggs, L. S.....	June 23, '64.	"	Spring Valley.....	Southern Minnesota.
Hall, Richard.....	Aug. 8, '50..	Ag't A. H. M. Soc'y	St. Paul.....	Central Minnesota.
Hall, Sherman.....	June, 1831..	Stated Supply....	Sauk Rapids.....	"
Haviland, B. F	Dec. 21, '59.	"	Cannon City.....	"
Hunt, N. A.....	1846	"	Sterling	Southern Minnesota.
Merrill, E. W.....	April 5, '64.	"	Marine Mills.....	Central Minnesota.
Miller, J. W.....	May 26, '63.	"	Prescott, Wis.....	"
Newton, Ezra.....	March 1, '48	"	Preston	Southern Minnesota.
Packard, A. K.....	Dec. 16, '51.	Pastor.....	Anoka.....	Central Minnesota.
Portens, Wm	May 21, '55.	Stated Supply....	Frank Hill.....	Southern Minnesota.
Rounce, J. S.....	Feb. '52....	"	Hamilton.....	Central Minnesota.
Salter, C. C.....	April 20, '59	Pastor.....	Minneapolis	"
Seccombe, C.....	Aug. 8, '50..	"	St. Anthony	"
Shedd, Charles.....	March, '42..	Stated Supply....	Wasioja	Southern Minnesota.
Sheldon, C. B.....	Oct. 9, '51..	Pastor Elect.....	Excelsior.....	Central "
Snell, W. W.....	Oct. 16, '59.	Stated Supply....	Rushford	Southern "
Spaulding, George..	1848	"	Hammond, Wis...	Central "
Sterry, DeWitt C...	June, '36...	"	Lake City	Southern "
Stevens, W. R.....	April, '47...	"	Rochester	Central "
Strong, J. C.....	Dec. 16, '46.	"	Albert Lea.....	Southern "
Tappan, C. L.....	Jan. 28, '64.	"	Owatonna	Central "
Teele, Edwin.....	Oct. 18, '52.	Without Charge...	Bristol Centre....	Southern "
Thorp, W. W.....	.....	Stated Supply....	Hudson, Wis.....	
Twichell, Royal.....	Jan. 12, '43.	Without Charge...	Anoka.....	Central Minnesota.
Wells, J. A.....	1856	Stated Supply....	Warren, Wis	"
Willard, Henry.....	Oct. 6, '58..	"	Plainview.....	Southern Minnesota.
Willey, Austin.....	May 18, '56.	Without Charge...	Northfield	Central Minnesota.
Williams, E. S.....	June 10, '64	Pastor.....	"	"
Williams, J. N.....	July, '47....	Stated Supply....	Cannon Falls.....	"
Woodruff, L. N.....	Jan. 6, '58..	"	Wabashaw.....	Southern Minnesota.

SUMMARY.

Pastors	6
Stated supplies	33
Chaplain	1
Agent A. H. M. Soc.	1
Others	6
Total	47

Five of the above reside in Wisconsin.

REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, AND OBITUARY NOTICES.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

DEAR BRETHREN—In presenting the Annual Report on the State of our Churches, I have to say there are great diversities in their condition, spiritual and material. Several have been very much weakened by the removal of members to other communities; but such changes have been a gain to other churches. Our membership has contributed largely to the armies of the Union; and many of these noble men may never come home. They have fallen as Christian patriots, and their memory shall be blessed.

Numbers of our churches are temporarily weakened by the absence of those who will return when the conflict is ended. Such churches are largely dependent on the A. H. M. S., while others are becoming self-supporting,

With one or two exceptions, there is a good degree of union among our members, and a state of hopefulness for the future.

Three of our ministers have died during the past year, Rev. S. J. Cochran, S. Putnam, and S. Cook; but the Great Head of the Church has sent us several others to fill our ranks, thus thinned by death.

The total membership of our 63 churches is 2,115; of our Sabbath Schools, 2,679. Our benevolent contributions amount to $2,600. In these facts there is evidence of increasing material strength.

In a few instances there have been revivals, resulting in 40 or 50 conversions, yet most of our churches have not been largely increased in this way. To this fact our attention should be called. We should deplore it. We should feel that it must not continue. Our plans should be laid for immediate results, as well as for those which are more remote. Our laymen should set themselves at work, and give a portion of that energy which they manifest in temporal pursuits to the cause of Christ. Our ministers should acquire more zeal, more faith, more efficiency.

Let us all aim to distinguish ourselves by patient continuance in well-doing for the year to come, and at our next meeting we may have results to report which will make us all glad in the Lord.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

Cash on hand, Oct. 8, 1863	$60 94		
Interest to August 1, 1864	5 79		
			66 73
Deduct $5 paid Mrs. McHose			5 00
Balance on hand August 1, 1864			$61 73
Interest on balance to Oct. 13, 1864	$1 20		
Contribution at Rochester	14 00	15 20	
Amount on hand October 13, 1864			$76 93

The funds of the Society are invested at ten per cent. interest on real estate security. Brethren not present at the Conference are requested to forward their annual contributions to the treasurer.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That it would be largely for the future efficiency of our ministry and churches, that each church should possess a good parsonage; and we would urge the attention of our churches to this subject, while land is cheap.

Resolved, That in the fearful increase of Intemperance, and in the present awakened state of the public mind, we recognize the peculiar need and encouragement of united action, the coming winter, on the Temperance question.

Resolved, That our churches invite the ministers and laymen of other churches of our order to unite with them in a series of meetings, and a plan of visitation, designed for immediate results in strengthening Christians and the conversion of others.

Resolved, That one service for preaching on the Sabbath, and an efficient Sabbath School, with Bible classes, are better than two sermons and a Sabbath School.

Resolved, That as we believe the New York *Independent*, as a Religious newspaper, is not in all respects what we need to promote the work of true evangelization in our State, we recommend to our churches the *Iowa Religious News Letter* and the *Congregationalist*, as promoters of home and church culture.

Resolved, That the procuring and sole cause of this rebellion, and of all difference of feeling between the North and South, is American Slavery.

Resolved, That we can hope for no termination of the struggle till we can see the destruction of its cause.

Resolved, That in the struggle now waging we discover the despotic spirit of the Old World pitted against the freedom-loving spirit of the New: Aristocracy.

under the name of Democracy, pitted against true Democracy under the name of Republicanism: border ruffian terrorism pitted against the free suffrage of the ballot-box, and the real essence of anarchy pitted against nationality.

Resolved, That the struggle reaches its climax in the approaching election; that a failure of the right now would be a failure forever, an ignoble and final abandonment of all that for which our fathers bled, and for which our sons and brethren of this generation have so freely poured out their blood; that a failure on the 8th of November next would be the death or the utter demoralization of the American nation; that, on the other hand, success of the right on that day is death to the rebellion; death to oppression; a final settlement of the question that we are a nation, one and indivisible; and a declaration to all the world, written in acts and not in words, that popular sovereignty and a government of the ballot box are not figments of the imagination, but living, powerful realities.

OBITUARIES.

Rev. JOHNATHAN COCHRAN died in Elgin, Wabashaw county, August 27, aged 57 years. He was a native of New Boston, New Hampshire; emigrated to Ohio, and was engaged as a teacher for some time in Seneca county. While thus engaged a revival of religion, about the year 1833 or '34, in a newly settled region, where ministerial laborers were few, called for the more public exercise of gifts, and as a result a decision to enter upon a course of preparation for the gospel ministry. After having spent about three years in classical studies in Huron Institute, at Milan, he entered the Theological Department of Western Reserve College, at Hudson, in that State, where he remained three years, and was licensed to preach the gospel, and subsequently ordained by the Huron Presbytery. He was married to a daughter of the late Rev. Alfred Betts, of Brownhelm, Ohio.

After a ministry of 16 years in Ohio and Michigan, he came to Minnesota in 1856, and labored as a home missionary at Greenville and Elgin until about a year before his decease. He was a man of keen, logical mind, an able and earnest preacher of the gospel; of ardent, genial temperament, and greatly beloved in his family, and by a wide circle of neighbors and friends. His last sickness was long and painful, but cheered to the last by a bright hope, which he expressed a few days previous to his death in those words, addressed to the Home Missionary Agent, "Bro. Hall I have got almost home," and just before his departure, after taking leave of his family, "I feel now like going home."

Rev. SIMON PUTNAM died at Afton, Minn., Sept. 11, 1864, aged 42 years. He was born in 1822, at Sutton, Mass., was married at Barre, Mass., July 16, 1844, to Miss Julia A. Bacon; was ordained to the gospel ministry at Lynn,

Mass., May 2, 1847, by Bishop Elijah Hedding, and received a member of the Central Congregational Association, Minnesota, in June, 1860. The Congregational churches at Afton and Lakeland, and formerly that at Cottage Grove, have for several years received his labors.

At the beginning of the war he labored earnestly and efficiently to fill the 1st and 2d Minnesota regiments, and when the 3d regiment was called for his convictions of duty led him to resign his pastoral charge and enlist as a private. An only son, who died before him, enlisted at the same time, and accompanied him to the war. One year of soldier-life, or nearly that, left him the victim of disease, for which he was discharged the service. Recovering at length he resumed his pastoral labors with the churches of Afton and Lakeland, but soon resigned them again to accept the Chaplaincy of his former regiment, to which, by request of the regiment, he had, unexpectedly to himself, been appointed in September, 1863. Joining the regiment at Little Rock, Ark., he continued their faithful, beloved and universally popular Chaplain till the 8th of August, 1864, when, with the regiment, he came home on a veteran furlough. But the toils and exposures of the last year had done their fatal work on a constitution not originally robust. He survived but 17 days after reaching his home—giving, however, during those days of weakness and suffering, most abundant and pleasing evidence to all the many friends who visited him of a mind at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Though mainly self-educated, Mr. Putnam was an earnest thinker; though naturally modest and self-distrustful, he was nevertheless self-reliant as a reasoner; his tastes were scholarly and cultivated; he was most genial, sympathizing and amiable as a friend and companion; to evil-speaking he was a stranger; he was charitable in judgment; as a pastor, and especially as a feeder of the lambs of his flock, he had rare qualifications.

Rev. STEPHEN COOK died at Austin, Minn., Oct. 13, 1864, of apoplexy. Father Cook was born in New Haven, Vt., in 1796, and began to preach in Willsboro, Essex county, N. Y., in 1834. In 1837 he was called to Peru, N. Y., where he labored nearly ten years in the midst of an affectionate people, winning many souls to Christ. He next preached successively at Adams Basin and to a Presbyterian church at Rochester, in Western New York. In 1851 he removed to Oberlin, Ohio, in consequence of ill-health, but soon resumed his labors in the neighboring towns Eight years ago he came to Austin—the first minister of the gospel in the place—and formed the first church, over which he was settled as Pastor. He earnestly desired perfect union among all Christians, and the church took the name of the Congregational Union Church. Four years ago last March, while engaged in a successful revival effort at Guilford, he suffered two shocks of palsy at a week's interval. Six months after he was disabled by the second shock; he partially recovered, and supplied the churches at Austin and Guilford again for a few months. He afterwards had two other shocks of palsy, and during the last year of his life was nearly helpless. He retained in a great measure his mental faculties and was ever cheerful and happy. Blessed are they that die in the Lord.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P.M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse: and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, and, if desired, an Assistant Scribe, shall be appointed, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall then be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of faith and covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT MINNEAPOLIS, OCTOBER 12, 1865.

ST. PAUL:
DAVID RAMALEY, PRINTER.
1865.

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NOTICES.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota will be held at Faribault in October, 1866, commencing on the Second Tuesday, (11th,) at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preacher of Opening Sermon. Rev. A. K. PACKARD; Alternate, Rev. C. C. SALTER.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at St. Paul, the First Tuesday in June, (5th,) 1866.

No notices of the meetings of the Association and Conference of Southern Minnesota, have been received by the Recording Secretary.

NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF MINNESOTA.

MINUTES.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1865.

The *Ninth Annual Session of the GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA, was held with the Congregational Church in Minneapolis, commencing on Thursday, October 12, 1865, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. D. BURT, of Winona. Text—Ephesians 2: 1.

FRIDAY, 9, A. M.

The Conference was called to order by Rev. A. K. PACKARD of Anoka, Recording Secretary.

Rev. C. SHEDD, of Wasioja, led in prayer.

*The Annual Session of 1865 was the ninth, calling the session of 1857 the *first* and not considering the meeting in 1856 when the Conference was organized an annual meeting.

Rev. J. F. DUDLEY, of St. Paul, was chosen temporary Scribe.

The members of the Conference were enrolled.

ROLL.

Churches Represented.	Pastors & Ministers in charge.	Delegates.
Afton	C. Hall	
Albert Lea	P. Canfield	
Anoka	A. K. Packard	Rev. R. Twitchell.
Austin	A. Morse	
Cannon Falls	J. R. Barnes	
Claremont	C. Shedd	
Clearwater	W. B. Dada	
Cottage Grove	Geo. S. Biscoe	
Excelsior & Chanhassan	C. B. Sheldon	John Murray.
Faribault		Levi Nutting.
Lakeland	C. Hall	
Lewiston	J. R. Barnes	
Marine	E. W. Merrill	
Mantorville	C. Shedd	
Mazeppa	W. Bigelow	
Medford	J. J. Aikin, D. D	R. G. Lincoln.
Minneapolis	C. C. Salter	A. T. Gale.
Monticello	A. K. Fox	
Northfield	E. S. Williams	Rev. A. Willey.
Orono	A. K. Fox	
Owatonna	C. L. Tappan	
Plainview	H. Willard	
Quincy	J. C. Beekman	
Rochester	W. R. Stevens	
Rushford	Wm. W. Snell	
Shakopee	A. Blumer	
St. Anthony	C. Seccombe	Harmon Martin.
St. Charles	J. C. Beekman	
St. Cloud	W. B. Dada	
St. Paul	J. F. Dudley	H. L. Nichols.
Warren	W. Porteus	
Wasioja	C. Shedd	
Wayland	W. Porteus	
West Eau Claire	Geo. Spaulding	
Winona	D. Burt	W. F. Phelps.
Zumbrota	E. Brown	

Members not representing churches.

Rev. Charles Galpin.....Excelsior.
Rev. R. Hall Agent of A. H. M. S.....St. Paul.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. John Morgan, D. D., General Conference of Ohio.

Rev. Thomas Williams, Congregational Conference of Rhode Island.

Rev. W. P. Doe, Congregational Conference of Rhode Island.

" H. N. Herrick, Minneapolis.

" Henry Ward, "

" Dr. Allen, "

" Dr. Quigley, "

" F. W. Flint, "

" A. H. Clapp, Sec. A. H. M. Society, New York.

" I. P. Langworthy, Sec. American Congregational Union, Boston.

" M. N. Adams, Agt. of American Bible Society for Min.

" S. J. Humphrey, Dist. Sec. of the A. B. C. F. M. for the North-west, Chicago.

" S. N. Moore, Agt. of American Freedmen's Aid Com.

" J. C. Sherwin, Agt. of A. H. M. Society for Wis.

R. G. Lincoln, of Medford, was chosen Moderator.

COMMITTEES.

The following committees were appointed:

Place and Preacher for next meeting—Rev. C. L. Tappan, Rev. C. B. Sheldon, Rev. G. Spaulding.

Correspondence with other Religious Bodies—Rev. E. Brown.

Resolutions—Rev. R. Hall, Rev. W. R. Stevens, Bro. A. T. Gale.

Finance and Printing—Rev. J. F. Dudley, Rev. H. Willard, Rev. D. Burt.

Arrangements—Rev. D. Burt, Rev. J. F. Dudley, Bro. Levi Nutting.

The Constitution and Rules of the Conference were read.

Report of Committee of Arrangements was received and adopted.

Rev. J. F. Dudley was chosen Recording Secretary, and Rev. H. Willard Scribe.

TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—*Devotional Exercises.*—Rev. A. Morse led in prayer. After an hour spent in prayer, singing and remarks, the business of the Conference was resumed.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK—Received reports of delegates from corresponding bodies.

General Conference of Ohio.—Rev. J. Morgan, D. D.

Convention of Wisconsin.—Rev. J. C. Sherwin.

General Conference of Maine.—Letter from Rev. Thomas G. Mitchell—read by Rev. C. C. Salter.

In response to a call from the Moderator, Rev. I. P. Langworthy spoke in behalf of the General Conference of Mass., Rev. A. H. Clapp in behalf of the General Association of New York, Rev. W. P. Doe in behalf of the General Conference of Rhode Island, and Rev. M. N. Adams in behalf of the Synod of Minn.

Adjourned to two o'clock, P. M.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.—Prayer by Rev. J. C. Sherwin.

Received reports of delegates to corresponding Bodies.

Most of the delegates reported that they were not able to fulfill their appointments.

Rev. E. S. Williams reported his attendance at the meeting of the General Conference of Ohio.

Rev. H. Willard reported that he attended the meeting of the General Association of New York.

Rev. J. F. Dudley reported his attendance, in place of the delegate appointed, at the 25th annual meeting of the Wisconsin Convention.

Rev. C. C Salter reported that being unable to attend the meeting of the Maine Conference, he wrote a letter to that body.

Reports from a part of the churches were received.

At half past three o'clock the Conference was addressed by the Rev. S. N. Moore in behalf of the American Freedmen's Aid Commission, by Rev. I. P. Langworthy in behalf of tne American Miss. Association, and by Rev. S. J. Humphrey in behalf of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY EVENING, 7½ o'CLOCK—Sermon by Rev. John Morgan, D. D. of Oberlin, Ohio. Text—2d Cor. 1: 19, 20.

SATURDAY, 9 o'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. C. Shedd.

Reports from the churches were received.

TEN o'CLOCK—Devotional exercises one hour, led by Rev. E. S. Williams.

Sung:

I am but a stranger here,
Heaven is my home;

Hymn 1224 *Sab. Hymn and Tune Book*

An earnest desire was expressed by brethren for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the churches, and fervent prayers were offered for this great blessing. The feeling seemed to pervade the Conference that a thorough work of grace is needed more than anything else to strengthen and establish the churches.

ELEVEN o'CLOCK—Reports from the remainder of the churches were received.

The following amendment to the By-Laws was proposed by Rev. C. Seccombe, and adopted:

Strike out these words in the first By-Law: "and if desired, an assistant Scribe shall be appointed," and insert the words, "one or more shall be appointed, to assist the Recording Secretary."

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, 2 o'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. H. Willard.

Sung:

I love Thy Kingdom, Lord—
The house of Thine abode.

Hymn 1017, *Sab. Hymn and Tune Book.*

Report of Committee on Place and Preacher for next year received and adopted.

Report of Statistical Secretary, Rev. C. Secoombe, received.

Chose Rev. D. Burt, Corresponding Secretary, Rev. C. Seccombe, Statistical Secretary, Bro. Calvin Russell, of Faribault, Treasurer, and Bro. Hudson Wilson, of Faribault, Auditor of the Conference.

Received report of Corresponding Secretary, Rev. D. Burt.

Report of Committee on Correspondence with other religious bodies received and adopted.

Committee on Finance and Printing made the following report:

Received of churches $80,30; paid for printing 500 copies of minutes, $70; other bills, $5,27; balance on hand, $5,03.

The Committee recommended that the churches be requested to contribute, the same as last year, at the rate of four cents per member, to defray the expenses of printing the minutes. Report adopted.

Report of the Treasurer of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society received.

Rev. R. Hall was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of said Society.

Bro. R. G. Lincoln, chairman of the Committee on a State Home Mission Society, reported in favor of, and Rev. R. Hall, of the same committee, reported against the organization of such a society. Voted to accept the reports and indefinitely postpone the subject

A report from Bro. C. M. Goodsell, chairman of the Committee on College, was received. (See Reports.) Voted that it be referred to a committee of three to report at this session of the Conference. Rev. E. Brown, Rev. E. S. Williams, and Rev. R. Hall were appointed said committee.

Committee on Resolutions reported, and report accepted. Voted that resolutions on Systematic Benevolence, Temperance, and State of the Country, be made the order of the evening.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY EVENING, 7½ O'CLOCK.

Committee on College reported as follows:—

"That in the opinion of this Conference, the time has arrived when it may be expedient to establish within our bounds an institution of learning under the control of our denomination, and to this end the following persons are appointed as a committee to receive proposals for a location, and take such other preliminary measures as may be necessary, and report their action for approval at the next meeting of the Conference, to wit: Rev. Richard Hall, of St. Paul, Rev. C. B. Sheldon, of Excelsior, Rev. D. Burt, of Winona, Bro. R. G. Lincoln, of Medford, Bro. I. C. Stearnes, of Zumbrota, Bro. C. M. Goodsell, of Northfield, and Bro. R. J. Baldwin, of Minneapolis."

Report adopted.

According to appointment, resolutions offered by Committee on Resolutions were discussed.

For resolutions adopted by the Conference, See p. 16.

The minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned.

SABBATH DAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

MEETING OF THE HOME MISSIONARIES. This meeting was for the purpose of giving the missionaries an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with each other, with their separate fields, experience, and labors.

HALF PAST TEN O'CLOCK—Sermon by Rev. S. J. Humphrey, of Chicago.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Rev. C. Shedd and Rev. I. P. Langworthy.

EVENING, 7 O'CLOCK—Addresses were made in behalf of Home Missions by Rev. R. Hall, of St. Paul, Rev. J. C. Sherwin, of Wisconsin, Rev. A. H. Clapp. of New York, and Rev. I. P. Langworthy, of Boston.

In behalf of the Conference the Moderator thanked the Congregational Church and the people of Minneapolis for their hospitality and efforts to render the meeting of the Conference pleasant and profitable. An appropriate response was made by Rev. C. C. Salter.

Adjourned to meet with the Congregational Church in Faribault on the second Thursday of October, 1866, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

J. F. DUDLEY,
Recording Secretary.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

DELEGATES TO FOREIGN BODIES.

General Association of California.....C. Seccombe.
" " Connecticut,..... C. L. Tappan.
" " Illinois,..... D. Burt.
" " Iowa,..... C. Shedd.
" " Kansas,..... A. Willey.
" " Massachusetts,..... W. R. Stevens.
" " Michigan,..... H. Willard.
" " Nebraska,..... J. C. Strong.
" " N. Hampshire,..... E. W. Merrill.
" " New York, ... C. B. Sheldon.
" " Oregon,..... C. C. Salter.
" Conference of Vermont,..... J. W. Strong.
" " Maine,..... A. Morse.
" " Ohio,..... J. F. Dudley.
" Association of Indiana,.....P. Canfield.
" Convention of Wisconsin,.....W. W. Snell.
" Consociation of Rhode Island,.....E. S. Williams.
Baptist Conference of Minnesota,..... W. R. Stevens.
Synod of Minnesota,..... G. S. Biscoe.
" " St. Paul,..... R. Hall.
Methodist Conference of Minnesota,..... E. Brown.

On Printing and Finance,—Dudley, Willard and Burt.
Treasurer of Widows' and Orphan's Aid Society,—D. Burt.
Statistical Secretary,—C. Seccombe.
Corresponding Secretary,—D. Burt.
On College,—See page 9.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To receive and indorse Applications of Churches, in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society,—D. Burt, of Winona, R. Hall, of St. Paul, and S. J. Smith, of Winona.

To receive and indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State: Central Association—C. Seccombe, St. Anthony; S. Hall, Sauk Rapids; Southern Association—D. Burt, Winona; C. Shedd, Mantorville.

[N. B.—The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

Corresponding Secretary,—D. Burt, till October, 1868.

Statistical Secretary,—C. Seccombe, till October, 1868.

Recording Secretary,—J. F. Dudley, till October, 1868.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1865.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	Ministers.	Commenced Labor.	Condition Sep. 1. 1865. Members. Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Addi'ns Profession.	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Excommunications.	Letter.	Total.	Bapt Adults.	Infants.	Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benovolent Contributions.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58	Chauncy Hall	Dec, 1, '63	5	16	21	10	2	1	3	2	..	4	4	..	..	40	.....	
Albert Lea	April 24, '59	Philo Canfield	Oct, 9, '64	5	15	20	2	1	5	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	30.00	Trying to build.
Anoka	May 6, '55	A K Packard	March 9, '60	17	42	59	15	8	1	4	1	..	3	4	8	..	65	154.00	
Austin	July 6, '57	Alfred Morse	Dec, 1st, '64	17	25	42	2	..	9	9	..	1	..	1	..	4	U'n	15.40	Brick Parsonage.
Cannon Falls	August '56	J R Barnes	May 16, '65	6	10	16	..	..	4	4	..	..	6	6	..	..	30	.....	
Chain Lake Centre	May 27, '65	J C Strong	Feb, 20, '64	8	8	16	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	.....	
Claremont	April 1860	C Shedd	April '60	2	6	8	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	30	.....	
Clearwater	April 20, '59	W B Dada	Nov, 1, 62	17	46	63	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	50	95.00	
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, 58	G S Biscoe	Nov "61	16	23	39	8	5	..	5	2	..	..	2	..	4	25	41.20	
Elgin	April 10, '58			12	17	29	..	1	3	4	..	..	2	2	..	..	U'n	20.00	
ExcelsiorsChanhas'n	July 17, '58	C B Sheldon	Nov, 18, '55	35	50	85	10	10	..	10	..	..	2	2	4	1	50	87.21	
Faribault	May 31, '56	J W Strong	1865	39	63	101	10	6	3	9	5	..	..	5	1	1	83	215.06	
Guilford	April '60	Alfred Morse	Dec, '64	4	7	11	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	27.00	
Glencoe	Oct. 24, 57	B F Haviland	Oct, '65	5	6	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	.....	Prospect brightening.
Hamilton	June 23, '60	J S Rounce	Mar, 15, '63	9	12	21	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	U'n	20.00	
Hammond Wis	July 6, 58	J W Miller	May 1, '65	17	21	38	4	4	3	7	1	..	3	4	2	..	40	.....	
High Forrest	June 21, '60	J S Rounce	Mar, 15, '63	10	15	25	..	8	2	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	U'n	25.00	
Hudson Wis	August 6, '57	J H Bradford	July 1, '65	8	33	41	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	.....	
Hutchinson	Feb. 7, '62	Unsupplied.		1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	U'n	.....	
Lake City	August '56	D C Sterry	May '56	30	56	86	5	3	4	7	..	..	4	4	1	1	100	150.00	
Lakeland	May 6, 58	C Hall (Presb.)	Dec, 1, 63	10	14	24	6	8	1	9	1	..	..	1	6	..	40	25.00	Revival in Winter.
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57	G Bent	March '61	7	9	16	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	....	5.00	
Lewiston	Feb. 16, '59	J R Barnes	May 16, '65	4	3	7	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	.....	
Malone Wis	August 5, '60	J A Wells	Nov, 1, '63	8	12	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40	12.00	
Mantorville	March '58	C Shedd	March '58	8	21	29	8	1	5	6	1	..	2	3	1	1	70	50.00	Hoping to build.

Marine	Feb. 8, '58	E W Merrill	May 22, '64	2	7	9												58	36.60	
Maxeppa	May 19, '60	W Bigelow	Nov, 1, 62	4	17	21	1	1	4	5			2	2				U'n	30.00	
Medford	Oct. 25, '56	J J Aiken (Presb)	Aug, 20, '65	12	16	28	3		8	8	1		5	6				65		
Minneapolis	April 28, '57	C C Salter	Oct, 26, '62	66	114	180	21	15	28	43	2	1	13	16	8	6		160	582.79	Prospering.
Monticello	March 8, 56	A K Fox	Aug 12, '60	18	28	46	4	4	2	6		1	8	9	4	1		80	75.00	
Nicollet	Sept. 10, 64			5	6	11														[Bell procured.
Northfield	August 30, 56	E S Williams	Mar 26, '64	53	87	140	12	28		28	1		10	11	11	7		80	98.70	Church enlarged, and
Orono	May 11, '61	A K Fox	Aug, 12, '60	4	4	8												50	10.00	
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57	C L Tappan	Jan, 31, '64	15	26	41	4	5	6	11			1	1	4			60	35.00	
Plainview	Oct. 7, '63	H Willard	Sep, '63	13	20	33	4	2	1	3	1			1		1		U'n	25.00	
Prairieville East	May '60	L C Gilbert	1865.	20	21	41	4	1	3	4	1		3	4		1		U'n		
Prescott Wis.	Feb. 15, '52	Unsupplied		41	49	90	36													No report; figs. as in '64
Preston	May '58	Unsupplied		5	4	9	2													
Princeton	July '56	Unsupplied		8	11	19	4	1		1								16	55.17	
Quincy	May '63	J C Beekman	Aug, 1, '62	9	12	21	2	7	1	8	1				8	8		80	37.00	Religious interest.
Richmond Wis.	1864	J A Wells	1868.	5	10	15												40		
River Falls Wis.	Feb, 8, '55	William Gill	Nov. 1, '62	27	68	95	10	9	5	14			10	10	6	2		130	139.81	
Rochester	Jan, 8, '58	W R Stevens.	Oct, 14, 62	20	48	68	4	1	16	17	1		2	3	2			55		
Rushford	March 12, '60	W W Snell	May 18, 55	5	10	15												40	12.85	
Saratoga	July 25, 56	G K Clark (Presb)	Oct, '55	10	13	23	3		1	1		2	6	8				60	140.00	
Sauk Rapids	Feb, 28, '55	Unsupplied		6	7	13	2												15.25	
Shakopee (German)	Oct, 1, '60	A Blumer	Jan 1, '60	5	9	14	1	1		1						7		34	71.37	
Spring Valley	May 24, '56	L S Griggs	Aug, 8, '63	25	28	53	7	8	6	14		1	5	6	4			U'n	35.00	
St. Anthony	Nov, 16, 51	C Seccombe	Oct, 1, '50	28	46	74	20	2	3	5	1		2	3	2	1		60	90.65	
St. Charles	Feb, 26, '59	J C Beekman	Aug, 1, 62	10	26	36	4	2	7	9	3		1	4				50	33.00	Church repaired.
St. Cloud	Feb, 16, 64	Unsupplied		8	5	13	3	1		1						1			15.00	
St. Paul	June 17, '58	J F Dudley	June '63	18	42	60	17	4	9	13			1	1				100	100.00	Church repaired.
Sterling	August 1857	N A Hunt	March 1, '61	23	24	47	4	13	5	18		1	1	2	2	5		40	50.00	
Vernon Centre	Oct, 23, 1864	N A Hunt	Feb, '64	2	2	4										5				
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57	E Hildreth	May '65	26	39	65	21	1	3	4			5	5		5		85		
Warren	June 10, '63	W Porteus	June 10, '63	7	6	13													13.40	
Warren Wis.	Oct, 3, '63	J A Wells	Sept, '63	6	7	13												80	10.00	
Wasioja	June '58	C Shedd	June '58	5	12	17	2	1	2	3	1		5	6				40		
Whitewater Falls	Sept, 1, '58	Unsupplied		3	3	6	1						1	1				U'n		
West Eau Claire Wis	Dec, 1856	George Spaulding	April '65	13	33	46												50		No pr'ching for 1 year.
Winnebago City	May 28, '59	J E Conrad (Presb)	Nov, '57	6	12	18	2	1	3	4			2	2				30		
Winona	Dec, 10, '54	David Burt	May 1, '58	47	97	144	21	27	19	46	1	2	3	6	12	9		187	385.56	Revival in Winter.
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	Edward Brown	Aug, 15, '64	24	32	56	12	3	2	5			2	2		2		80	50.00	Church debt paid off.
*York (Dutch)	Oct, 1, '65	H M H Stroes	Sept, 1, '65	10	9	19														

SUMMARY.

Whole number of Churches, 67; of which 8 are in Wisconsin. Whole membership, 2,465—919 Males, 1,546 Females.. Whole number of additions, 354, to-wit, 185 on profession and 169 by letter. Adult baptisms, 77; infant baptisms, 71. S. S. and Bible Class scholars, 2,628. Contributions, $3,062.56.

* Organized since September 1st.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1865.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation.	P. O. Address.	Association.
Andrews David...	Jan. 29. '40.	Without Charge...	Winona	Southern Minnesota.
Barnes J. R.....	1838....	Stated Supply....	Cannon Falls	Central Minnesota.
Beekman J. C....	Jan. '68....	"	St. Charles.....	Southern Minnesota.
Bigelow Warren..	Nov. 13. '54.	"	Mazeppa.....	La Crosse Conv'tion.
Biscoe G. S.....	Oct. 25. '61.	Pastor.....	Cottage Grove....	Central Minnesota.
Blumer Adam....	Feb. 4. '57.	Stated Supply....	Shakopee.....	" "
Bradford Jas. H...	Feb. 8. 62..	"	Hudson Wis.....	
Brown Edward...	Jan. 13. '58.	"	Zumbrota	Southern Minnesota.
Burbank J. E.....	Apr. 13. '58.	Without Charge...	Preston	" "
Burt David.....	Nov. 4. 51..	Stated Supply....	Winona	" "
Canfield Philo....	Feb. 5. 47 ..	"	Albert Lea	Wis.Gen. Convent'n
Dada W. B.....	July 1. '56..	Pastor	Clearwater.....	Central Minnesota.
Dudley J. F.....	Dec. 29. '64.	Stated Supply....	St. Paul.....	" "
Fox A. K..	Oct. 25. '59.	"	Monticello.....	" "
Galpin Charles...	Sept. '44....	Without Charge..	Excelsior.....	" "
Gilbert L. C.....	July 16. '40.	Stated Supply....	East Prairieville..	" "
Gill Wm.....	May 26. '63.	Pastor	River Falls Wis....	" "
Griggs L. S.....	June 23. '64.	Stated Supply....	Spring Valley....	Southern Minnesota.
Hall Richard.....	Aug. 8. '50..	Agt. A. H. M. S...	St. Paul.....	Central "
Hall Sherman....	June '81....	Without Charge..	Sauk Rapids.....	" "
Haviland B. F....	Dec. 21. 59.	Stated Supply....	Glencoe.....	" "
Hildreth E.....	Dec. 30. '62.	"	Wabashaw	Central East Ill.
Hunt N. A.....	1846	"	Sterling	Southern Minnesota.
Merrill E. W.....	Apr. 5. '64.	"	Marine Mills.....	Central Minnesota.
Miller J. W.....	May 26. '63.	"	Hammond Wis...	" "
Morse Alfred.....	1847	"	Austin	Southern "
Packard A. K.....	Dec. 16. 51.	Pastor.....	Anoka	Central Minnesota.
Porteus Wm.....	May 21. '55.	Stated Supply....	Frank Hill	Southern "
Rounce J. S.....	Feb. '52....	"	Hamilton.....	Central "
Salter C. C.....	Apr. 20. '59.	Pastor.....	Minneapolis.....	" "
Seccombe Chas...	Aug. 8. '50..	"	St. Anthony.....	" "
Shedd Charles....	March '42..	Stated Supply....	Wasioja	Southern "
Sheldon C. B.....	Oct. 9. '51..	Pastor elect.....	Excelsior.....	Central "
Snell W. W.....	Oct. 16. '59.	Stated Supply....	Rushford.....	Southern "
Spaulding Geo....	May 10. '48.	"	W. Eau Claire Wis	Central "
Sterry Dewitt C...	June '86....	"	Lake City	Southern "
Stevens W. B.....	Apr. '47....	"	Rochester	Central "
Strong J. C.....	Dec. 16. '46.	"	Chain Lake Centre	Southern "
Strong J. W.....	Sep. 23. '62.	"	Faribault.....	
Tappan C. L.....	Jan. 28. '64.	"	Owatonna.....	Central "
Teele Edwin.....	Oct. 13. '52.	Without Charge..	Bristol Centre....	Southern "
Twichell Royal...	Jan. 12. '42.	" "	Anoka	Central "
Wells J. A.....	1856.	Stated Supply....	Warren Wis.....	Southern "
Willard Henry...	Oct. 6. '58..	"	Plainview	" "
Willey Austin....	May 18. '56.	Without Charge..	Northfield.....	Central "
Williams E. S.....	June 10. '64.	Pastor.	Northfield.....	" "
Williams J. N.....	July '47....	Missionary.....	Lake City:.....	Central Minnesota.

SUMMARY.

Pastors	7
Stated supplies	31
Missionary	1
Agent of A. H. M. S.	1
Others	7
Total	47

REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

DEAR BRETHREN—The material facts which ought to appear in this report, are these: We have sixty-nine churches, with a total membership of 2396. Whole number of ministers 48; of pupils in our Sabbath Schools 2112; of Infant Baptisms, 64. Our contributions to benevolent objects are $2774,56.

Ten of our churches have received a large increase of membership, some of them through special spiritual quickenings. At least five ministers are much needed, and there is an imperative demand for at least eight new houses of worship. There appears among us a deep sense of dependence on the Divine Spirit, and a determination to work under God for the conversion of men. Our growth in the past is a pledge of future enlargement. We are a religious power in this State, and this fact is becoming more apparent every year. Our churches have a history that may not be written—an experience that can appear in no public record. It is wrought out in the hearts of toiling missionaries and missionaries' wives, and in the aspirations and prayers and exertions of our faithful laymen. Yet, this experience has its record on high. It lives in the heart of our Saviour and its rememberance may constitute a joy of heaven. Walking by faith, let the coming year abound in christian labor, and it shall be rich in blessed results.

REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON COLLEGE.

To aid in founding a College in Northfield for our denomination, we can pledge the payment of seven thousand dollars in cash, and the title to ten acres of land as a site for the College worth one thousand dollars, as a donation from two individuals. And we have no doubt that nearly or quite three thousand dollars more can be raised by subscription, or in the form of stock, from other citizens of Northfield and vicinity, for the purpose of erecting the first college building. So much for Northfield. Now are there not other towns that will take hold of the matter and do better than this, and thus get up some competition, and then perhaps more than this could be done here. I have not had any reports from the other members of the committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That we heartily endorse the recommendation of the National Council at Boston, in reference to the American Home Missionary Society, the American Missionary Association, and the American Congregational Union, and that as churches we will make it a first duty to aid each of these societies to the extent of our ability in raising this year the large sums severally assigned to them by the Council.

2. *Resolved*, That the American Freedmen's Aid Commission as an effort to unite on the broadest grounds all the friends of the Freedmen in labors for their elevation, has our approval and sympathy; and that to all those in our congregations who do not feel that christian effort for the Freedmen can be as well or better made through the American Missionary Association, we commend this organization as well worthy of public confidence.

3. *Resolved*, That the habit of contributing regularly for the spread of the Gospel in *foreign lands* is indispensable to the spiritual welfare of our churches *at home*; and that the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has our entire confidence and sympathy as the channel through which to make these contributions.

4. *Resolved*, That our churches, however feeble and poor, should adopt the plan of contributing to specific objects of christian benevolence at stated times.

5. *Resolved*, That we will cheerfully aid the American Bible Society in securing the practical co-operation of the members of our churches in the important work of Bible Distribution.

6. *Resolved*, That the friends of Temperance must continue to invoke the aid of legislation in their holy cause; and that legislation instead of being made less efficient needs to be made more efficient than heretofore in suppressing the sale and use especially of distilled spirits, and also of all intoxicating liquors.

7. *Resolved*, That the greatest prominence should be given to moral means in the cause of temperance, including especially the power of christian example and of voluntary abstinence and self denial for the good of others in reference to all indulgences which, though lawful, may not be absolutely necessary to our welfare.

8. *Resolved*, That we view with deepest concern the present condition and tendency of governmental action on the reconstruction of the seceded States: and we can but express our fears that, after all the nation has sacrificed and suffered, the battle of freedom may yet be lost through the weakness or the treachery of its professed friends.

9. *Resolved*, That until the principle of impartial suffrage, irrespective of race or color, shall be heartily adopted by the people, we see no probability that Almighty God will give any lasting peace or prosperity to the nation.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

8

ORGANIZED,		Place of Meeting	Moderator.	Recording Secretary	Corresponding Secretary.	Statistical Secretary	Preacher and Text
October, 24, 1856.		St. Anthony....	Rev. S. Hall.....	Rev C B Sheldon...	Rev C Seccombe		Rev W R Stevens ...John 1: 4
1	1857....	Prescott, Wis...	Rev L. Armsby.....	Rev C B Sheldon ...	Rev C Seccombe		Rev C B Sheldon. ...2 Cor 4: 7
2	1858.....	Faribault.....	Rev D. Andrews....	Rev C B Sheldon ...	Rev C Seccombe	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev R Hall.....Rev 11: 15
3	1859.....	Winona	Rev C. Seccombe...	Rev C B Sheldon ...	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev L Armsby.....Rev 3: 18
4	1860.....	St. Paul.....	Rev D. Burt	Rev C B Sheldon ...	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev D Andrews.....Is. 55: 10, 11
5	1861.....	Anoka.....	Rev O. A. Thomas..	Rev C B Sheldon ...	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev A S Fiske.....Phil. 4: 6
6	1862.....	Northfield.....	Rev C. Shedd	Rev A K Packard..	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev C Shedd.....2 Thess. 2: 13
7	1863.....	Lake City.....	Rev W. R. Stevens.	Rev A K Packard..	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev J W Miller .....Jn. 17: 20, 21
8	1864.....	Rochester	Bro C. M. Goodsell	Rev A K Packard..	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev C Seccombe..... Prov. 24: 10
9	1865. ...	Minneapolis	Bro R G Lincoln...	Rev J F Dudley....	Rev D Burt....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev D Burt..... .... Eph. 2: 1

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

October of each Year	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removals.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommunicated.			Adult.	Infant.		
1856..	8..	9..	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	
1857..	16..	16..	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	
1858..	41..	27..	137....	267....	5....	40...	0....	1037....	71....	42....	41....	1116....	$ 966 58
1859..	51..	36..	179....	233....	13....	66...	1....	1446....	99....	75....	95....	1841....	$ 725 81
1860..	68..	43..	185....	201....	19....	140...	8....	1630....	180....	72....	90....	1868....	$ 821 90
1861..	64..	46..	90....	122....	12 ...	91...	12....	1589....	169....	26....	66....	1841....	$1108 92
1862..	61..	41..	87....	105....	16....	48...	7....	1514....	255....	16....	60....	1848....	$ 780 86
1863..	59..	45..	118....	125....	28....	70...	2....	1877....	297....	35....	68....	1244....	$1029 14
1864..	68..	47..	255....	498....	33....	109...	8....	2140....	314....	118....	85....	2737....	$2644 66
1865..	64..	47..	195....	169....	28....	107...	7....	2465....	324....	77....	71....	2628....	$3062 56

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its constitution, confession and by-laws—each church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock, P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The annual meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 1 . The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination its confession of faith and covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

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1866

MINUTES

OF THE

TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT

FARIBAULT, OCTOBER 11, 1866.

WINONA:
REPUBLICAN POWER PRESS PRINT.
1866.

NOTICES.

The Eleventh Annual Meeting of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, will be held at St. Cloud, in October, 1867, commencing on the Second Thursday, (10th,) at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preacher of Opening Sermon, Rev. J. F. DUDLEY; Alternate, Rev. GEORGE SPAULDING.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at Northfield, the First Tuesday in June, (4th,) 1867.

TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE,

OF MINNESOTA.

MINUTES.

FARIBAULT, OCTOBER 11, 1866.

The Tenth Annual Session of the GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA, was held with the First Congregational Church in Faribault, commencing on Thursday, Oct 11, 1866, at 7½ o'clock P. M.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. A. B. SMITH, of Connecticut. Text—Matt. 23: 8.

After the sermon the Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary, Rev. J. F. DUDLEY. Voted to postpone Permanent Organization till Friday A. M., at 9 oclock. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, Oct. 12, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary.

Rev. CHARLES SHEDD, of Wasioja, led in prayer.

Rev. L. S. GRIGGS, of Owatonna, was chosen Scribe.

The members of Conference were then enrolled as follows:

Churches Represented.	Pastors and Ministers in charge.	Delegates.
Afton	A. D. Roe	Leavitt J. Olds.
Albert Lea	P. Carfield	
Austin	A. Morse	
Cannon Falls	J. R. Barnes	
Claremont	C. Shedd	
Clearwater	W. B. Dada	
Cottage Grove	G. S. Biscoe	Samuel W. Furber
Elgin		N. Engle.
Excelsior and Chanhassan	Chas. B. Sheldon	Rev. Chas. Galpin.
Faribault	E. Gale	R. A. Mott.
" Plymouth	J. W. Strong	G. F. Batchelder.
Glencoe	B. F. Haviland	
Guilford	A. Morse.	
Hammond, Wis	J. W. Miller.	
Hebron		Curtis Clarke.
Hudson, Wis	J. H. Bradford	
Lake City	E. Anderson	Henry Collins.
Lakeland	A. D. Roe	
Lewiston	J. R. Barnes	
Mantorville	L. J. Sawyer	
Medford	J. J. Aikin	N. Williamson
Minneapolis		Asa G. Kendall.
Northfield	E. S. Williams	Myron Skinner.
Owatonna	L. S. Griggs	F. J. Stevens.
Painesville	S. D. Trembly	
Plainview	H. Willard	
Prairieville, East	L. C. Gilbert	Geo. Dorrance.
Prescott, Wis	M. M. Martin	W. J. Copp.
River Falls, Wis	William Gill	
Saratoga	Geo. H. Miles	
St. Charles	" "	D. M. Evans.
St. Cloud	W. B. Dada	
St. Paul		P. P. Furber.
Sterling	N. A. Hunt	
Vernon Center	" "	
Wabashaw	Edward Hildreth	
Wasioja	C. Shedd	S. S. Beckwith.
West Eau Claire, Wis	Geo. Spaulding	
Winona	J. F. Dudley	Henry Stevens.
Zumbrota		I. C. Stearns.

MEMBERS NOT REPRESENTING CHURCHES.

Rev. R. Hall, Agent of the Am. H. M. Society.....St. Paul.
Rev. D. Andrews,.....Winona.
Rev. E. Brown, Sec. of Am. Tract Society at Boston for Minn...Zumbrota.
Rev. C. L. Tappan,.....Owatonna.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. G. S. F. Savage, from General Association of Illinois.
" J. R. Shipherd, " " "
" B. A. Dean, " " Mass.
" A. Fuller, " " Maine.
" A. B. Smith, " " Connecticut.
" Palmer Litts, Missionary Am. Missionary Association.
" Mr. Barstow, Pastor Baptist Church, Faribault.
" Mr. Rogers, " M. E. " "
" J. M. Hayes, Delegate from Convention of Wis.
" E. H. Greeley, Delegate from Association of Mass.

Bro. W. J. Copp, of Prescott, Wis., was elected Moderator.

On motion, the Chair was instructed to appoint the following Committees: on Correspondence with other Religious Bodies, on Resolutions, and on Printing and Finance, as required by the By-Laws. The Constitution and By-Laws were read by the Scribe.

On motion of Rev. Geo. S. Biscoe, of Cottage Grove,

Voted, That members of the Central and Southern Associations, who may be present, be received as members of the Conference, and that a committee be appointed to inquire whether the last sentence of the Second Article of the Constitution should be changed, and if so, to present an amendment.

Rev. Chas. B. Sheldon was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Committee of Arrangements, caused by the absence of Rev. D. Burt.

Voted that the Committee of Arrangements appoint a person to act as Corresponding Secretary in place of Bro. Burt, absent.

TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—*Devotional Exercises.*—An hour was spent in prayer, singing and remarks. Rev. W. B. Dada in the Chair.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK.—Voted that a Committee be appointed by the Chair to examine the Confession of Faith and Covenant of any churches desiring admission to Conference.

Committee of Arrangements reported:—

That Conference meet (Sabbath excepted,) for morning Session from 9 to 12 o'clock.

Afternoon Session from 2 to 5 o'clock.

Evening Session from 7½ to 9 o'clock.

That the hour from 10 to 11 o'clock A. M., be devoted to prayer and Conference.

That Rev. Geo. S. Biscoe is appointed Corresponding Secretary *pro tem.*

That reports of Committees and other business be taken up in the following order.

1. Report of Delegates to Foreign Bodies.
2. " " from Foreign Bodies.
3. " of Committee on Finance and Printing.
4. " of the Treasurer of Widow's and Orphan's Aid Society.
5. " of the Statistical Secretary.
6. Listen to representatives of Benevolent Societies.
7. Report of Churches.
8. That report of College Committee be the special order for 2 P. M. this day.

Voted that Brothers Hall, Furber, of Cottage Grove, and Seccombe assist the chair in appointing committees.

Reports of delegates appointed at last meeting to visit Foreign Bodies were received

Most of the appointees reported that they had not visited the bodies to which they were delegated.

Rev. A. Morse reported having visited the Conference of Maine, according to appointment.

The following Brethren were invited to sit as Honorary Members. (See Roll.)

Moderator reported the appointment of the following Committees:

Place and Preacher.—Rev. C. B. Sheldon and George S. Biscoe.

Correspondence with other Religious Bodies.—Rev. H. Willard.

Resolutions.—Rev. E. Anderson, Hon. F. J. Stevens, Rev. James W. Strong.

Printing and Finance.—Rev. J. F. Dudley, Bro S. W. Furber, Rev. E. Gale.

Reception of Churches.—Rev. Wm. Gill, Rev. W. B. Dada, Dea. Curtis Clarke.

Reports of delegates from Foreign Bodies were received.

Rev. G. S. F. Savage presented the greetings of the General Association of Illinois.

A letter was read from Rev. W. Newell, the appointed delegate from the General Conference of Maine.

Rev. A. Fuller of Maine, being present, addressed the conference.

An invitation was received from the officers of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, to visit that Institution at 1½ o'clock this P. M. Accepted.

Adjourned to meet at 2½ o'clock, P. M.

HALF PAST TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.—After singing, Rev. Geo. S. Biscoe led in prayer.

The special order of business was temporarily postponed.

Committee on the admission of Churches reported that the confessions of faith adopted by the following Churches, viz: First Congregational Church of Painesville, and the Plymouth Church of Faribault, are satisfactory and recommended that these churches be received as members of the Conference.

On motion of Rev. E. Gale of Faribault, the report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on College reported through Rev. R. Hall, chairman, recommending the acceptance of the offers of the people of Northfield, and the adoption of that place as the location of the College.

After remarks by Bros. Seccombe, Galpin, Anderson, Brown, Willard and Furber, the report was adopted unanimously.

(See appendix.)

Voted that a Committee be appointed to nominate a Board of Trustees for the College. The following persons were appointed:

Rev. C. Seccombe, Bro. C. M. Goodsell, Bro. Henry Stevens, Rev. C. B. Sheldon, Bro. F. J. Stevens. and Rev. R. Hall.

Congratulatory remarks were made by Rev. J. R. Shipherd in behalf of the Wisconsin Colleges.

The roll was called. Adjourned.

Conference met at 7 o'clock, P. M.—After singing, Bro. Roe, of Afton, led in prayer. Conference was then addressed by Rev. G. S. F. Savage in behalf of the American Tract Society at Boston.

Conference listened to Rev. J. R. Shipherd, presenting the cause of the American Missionary Association.

An invitation was extended to Conference, by the ladies of the First Congregational and Plymouth Churches of Faribault, to attend a social gathering at the Hall of Plymouth Church to-morrow evening. Invitation accepted.

After singing "America," Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference was called to order by the Moderator. After singing, Rev. G. Spaulding led in prayer. The minutes of yesterday's session were read, corrected and approved.

Conference was addressed by Rev. J. M. Hayes, delegate from the Wisconsin General Convention.

Report of the Committee on printing and finance was presented, accepted and adopted. (See appendix.)

Report of the Treasurer of the Widows and Orphans Aid Society was presented, accepted and adopted, and in the absence of the Treasurer, *Voted*, that Rev. E. S Williams be appointed Treasurer *pro tem.* (See appendix.)

A partial report was presented by the Statistical Secretary. Accepted and recommitted for completion. (See Appendix.)

TEN O'CLOCK—*Devotional Exercises.*—An hour was spent in prayer, singing and remarks. Rev. Edward Hildreth, of Wabashaw, led in the exercises.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK—A fraternal letter was read from the General Conference of Missouri, and the Conference appointed Rev. C. Seccombe to represent them, by presence or letter, at the meeting of the Missouri Conference, on the 18th inst., at St. Louis.

Conference listened to Rev. H. H. Morgan, presenting the greetings of the General Association of Michigan.

Committee on nomination of Trustees for the College at Northfield reported. Report adopted. (See appendix.)

Committee on Correspondence with other Religious Bodies reported. Report adopted. (See appendix.)

Voted, that the name of the Congregational College of Minnesota be Northfield College.

Committee on Resolutions reported on the state of the country. (See Appendix.)

Rev. G. S. F. Savage addressed the Conference, announcing that Rev. E. Brown, of Zumbrota, had been appointed Dis. Sec., for Minnesota, of the Am. Tract Society at Boston, and donating to each minister present a copy of "Words to Winners of Souls."

Voted, that the Trustees of the College be instructed to adopt, as one of their articles of incorporation, that three-fourths of the members of the Board shall always be members of Congregational Churches in connection with the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, or members of the conference, and that the Board shall have power to fill its own vacancies.

Voted, that 3 o'clock be the hour for the Reports from the churches.

Voted, that the Conference thank Prof. Noyes for his kind

invitation to visit the State Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institution under his charge, and do hereby extend their cordial sympathy to him and his associates in their high and holy work.

Adjourned.

Two o'clock, p. m.—After singing, Rev. L. C. Gilbert, of East Prairieville, led in prayer.

Letters were read from the delegates of the Massachusetts and the New York General Associations.

Voted, that the minutes of the Conference including the resolutions and reports be printed in full.

Bro. Lewis, of Red Wing, addressed the Conference briefly in behalf of the Am. Sunday School Union.

Committee on Place and Preacher reported that Winona be the place of meeting next year. Report not adopted.

Voted, that St. Cloud be the place of meeting next year.

Committee on Resolutions reported additional resolutions. Report accepted and adopted. (See Appendix.)

Voted, that Bros. Dada, Biscoe and Packard constitute the committee of arrangements for next year.

Rev. J. F. Dudley was elected Treasurer for ensuing year.

H. P. Bennett, of St. Cloud, was elected Auditor for ensuing year.

Reports from churches were received.

Committee of Arrangements reported Order of Exercises for Sabbath.

Adjourned.

Seven o'clock, p. m.—Prayer by Rev. M. M. Martin, of Prescott, Wis.

Hearing of reports from Churches was concluded.

Report of Corresponding Secretary *pro tem.*, Rev. G. S. Biscoe, received and adopted. (See Appendix.)

Committee on Place and Preacher reported:

Preacher.—Rev. J. F. Dudley, of Winona.

Alternate.—Rev. Geo. Spaulding, of West Eau Claire, Wis.

Report adopted.

The following resolution was offered by S. W. Furber, of Cottage Grove, and after an earnest discussion was adopted:

Resolved, That this Conference pledge the sum of $10,000 toward the College to be established at Northfield, under the auspices of this body, said sum to be collected in the churches of our own State during the coming year, and that thereby we give tangible evidence of the interest we feel in this great work.

Minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned.

After adjournment, according to previous arrangement, the members attended the social gathering at the Hall of Plymouth Church.

SABBATH DAY.

Prayer meeting from 9 to 10, A. M., conducted by Rev. Geo. Spaulding.

HALF PAST TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—Sermon by Rev. J. M. Hayee, of Wisconsin.

QUARTER PAST TWELVE O'CLOCK.—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Rev. C. Shedd and Rev. E. Brown Deacon Stearns, of Zumbrota, and Collins, of Lake City, distributed the elements.

HALF PAST TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.—Union meeting of the Sabbath Schools of the First Congregational, Plymouth, Baptist and Methodist churches, addressed by Revs. Edward Hildreth, J. H. Bradford and E. Anderson.

HALF PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK P. M.—Sermon by Rev. A. Fuller, of Hallowell, Maine.

AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

HALF PAST TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—Sermon by Rev. E. Anderson, of Lake City.

AT METHODIST CHURCH.

HALF PAST TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—Sermon by Rev. A. D. Roe, of Afton.

HALF PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.—Sermon by Rev. M. M. Martin, of Prescott, Wisconsin.

AT BAPTIST CHURCH.

HALF PAST TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.—Sermon by Rev. Mr. Gill, of River Falls, Wis.

HALF PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.—Sermon by Rev. G. H. Miles, Saint Charles.

After the sermon by Bro. Fuller, the Moderator, in behalf of the Conference, thanked the First Congregational Church, members of the Plymouth and other Churches in Faribault, for their hospitality, and also the Choir of the First Congregational Church for their excellent singing during the session. An appropriate response was made by Rev. E. Gale, pastor of the First Congregational Church.

After singing the Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. C. Shedd, and the Conference adjourned to meet with the Congregational Church in Saint Cloud, on the second Thursday of October, 1867, at 7 o'clock P. M.

W. J. COPP, *Moderator.*
J. F. DUDLEY, *Rec. Sec'y.*
L. S. GRIGGS, *Scribe.*

APPENDIX.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL SESSION.

DELEGATES TO OTHER RELIGIOUS BODIES.

General Association of California,.....A. Willey.
" " Connecticut,.....J. W. Strong.
" " Illinois,.....Edward Hildreth.
" " Indiana,.....N. A. Hunt.
" " Iowa,.....E. S. Williams.
" " Kansas,.....L. S. Griggs.
" " Massachusetts,.....Chas. Galpin.
" " Michigan,.....Alfred Morse.
" " Nebraska,.....L. C. Gilbert.
" " New Hampshire,.....G. S. Biscoe.
" " New York,.....L. J. Sawyer.
" " Oregon,.....W. B. Dada.
" Conference of Maine,.....J. F. Dudley.
" " Massachusetts,.....J. R. Barnes.
" " Missouri,.....Geo. H. Miles.
" " Ohio,.....E. Gale.
" " Rhode Island,.....J. J. Aiken.
" " Vermont,.....J. H. Bradford.
" Convention of Wisconsin,.....E. Brown.
Synod of Minnesota,.....C. C. Salter.
" St. Paul,.....C. Shedd.
Baptist Convention of Minnesota,.....P. Canfield.
Methodist Episcopal Conference of Minnesota,.....R. Hall.

On Printing and Finance—Dudley, Furber, and Gale.
Treasurer of Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society—D. Burt.
Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe.
Corresponding Secretary—D. Burt.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To receive and indorse Applications of Churches, in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society—J. F. Dudley of Winona, and R. Hall of St. Paul.

To receive and indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State: Central Association—C. C. Salter, Minneapolis, and A. K. Packard, Anoka; Southern Association—J. F. Dudley, Winona, and C. Shedd, Mantorville.

[N. B.—The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

Corresponding Secretary—D. Burt, till October, 1868.

Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe, till October, 1868.

Recording Secretary—J. F. Dudley, till October, 1868.

NAMES OF THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

Northfield—C. M. Goodsell, H. Scriver, J. H. Spencer, M. W. Skinner.
St. Paul—Rev. R. Hall.
St. Anthony—Rev. C. Seccombe.
Minneapolis—A. T. Hale, E. S. Jones.
Excelsior—Rev. C. B. Sheldon.
Cottage Grove—S. W. Furber.
Lake City—Henry Collins.
Winona—Rev. D. Burt, Rev. J. F. Dudley.
Rochester—R. Whitney.
Zumbrota—I. C. Stearns.
Owatonna—A. N. Stoughton.
Faribault—Rev. E. Gale, Rev. J. W. Strong.
Anoka—Rev. A. K. Packard.
West Eau Claire, Wis.—Rev. George Spaulding.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE.

FARIBAULT, MINN., Oct. 11th, 1866.

The Committee on Printing and Finance submit the following report:

Received from the churches		$78 36
Balance from last year		5 03
Total		$83 39
Paid for printing 600 copies of Minutes	$64 20	
Paid for printing circulars and blanks	2 75	
Paid for postage and stationery	5 24	
Paid bill of Statistical Secretary	7 72	
		79 91
Balance		$ 3 48

At Minneapolis, twelve churches paid according to request of Conference. To the first circulars sent out 32 churches responded. In September last circulars were sent to the seventeen delinquent churches, and four of them responded. Twelve churches have not in any way replied to the request sent them. The amount they were requested to contribute was $15.32.

Copies of the Minutes, one for every five members, were sent by mail to all the churches.

The account of the Committee, containing all the items, and audited by Hudson Wilson, Esq., of Faribault, is herewith submitted. The Committee recommend that the same plan for raising funds be adopted for the ensuing year as last.

J. F. DUDLEY,
H. WILLARD,
Committee on Printing and Finance.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

D. BURT, in account with Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, October 12th, 1865, Dr.

Cash on hand, invested at 10 per cent	$ 77	93
Annual interest on same	7	79
Total	$ 85	72
Contributed at Minneapolis	29	90
	$115	62
Interest on $115.62	11	56
In my hands, October 11th, 1866	$127	18

D. BURT, *Treasurer.*

Collected at Faribault, Oct. 13th, 1866 ..... $35 00

E. S. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer pro tem.*

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY PRO TEM.

Our churches have not, during the past year, experienced that general refreshing from above for which we hoped, and yet they have by no means labored in vain. Almost all the churches have received additions, and some have been especially blessed. The benevolent contributions have been increased nearly twenty per cent.

Eight new ministers have commenced their labors within the bounds of the Conference, and yet eight churches, most of them feeble, are looking for pastors. Eleven are either repairing their houses of worship, or building new ones.

As our State is increasing in population, God is extending the field of usefulness in which we may labor. He is also impressing pastors and people with a sense of their responsibility, and thus preparing them for their work and to receive the Divine blessing.

The most important fact before us is, that God, by his Providence, speaks to us, commanding us to go forward.

GEO. S. BISCOE.

The Committee on College reported at Minneapolis in 1865 as follows:

"That in the opinion of this Conference, the time has arrived when it may be expedient to establish within our bounds an institution of learning under the control of our denomination, and to this end the following persons are appointed as a committee, to receive proposals for a location, and take such other preliminary measures as may be necessary, and report their action for approval at the next meeting of Conference, to-wit: Rev. Richard Hall, of St. Paul; Rev. C. B. Sheldon, of Excelsior; Rev. D. Burt, of Winona; Bro. R. G. Lincoln, of Medford; Bro. I. C. Stearns, of Zumbrota; Bro. C. M. Goodsell, of Northfield; and Bro. R. J. Baldwin, of Minneapolis."

This report was adopted, thereby constituting the College Committee, whose duty it is to report to this Conference at the present time, and thereby instructing this committee also in some measure in regard to their duties on the whole subject.

In attempting to carry out what the committee have understood to be the intention of the Conference, the first step was to address a circular on the subject to every Congregational Church in the State, of which the committee supposed there was any probability that it might compete for the location of the College. The following is a copy of the circular, as addressed to the church in Winona, and which, by substituting the proper names, answers for all the rest:

ST. PAUL, MINN., February 20, 1866.

REV. D. BURT:

DEAR BROTHER: The Congregational Conference of Minnesota having appointed the undersigned a committee to receive proposals for a location for a College, and to take such other preliminary measures as may be necessary, and report their action for approval at the next meeting of the Conference at Faribault, October 11, 1866, desire, through you, to propose the following inquiries to any friends of learning in Winona, who may be interested in such an enterprise:

1. Can you offer in Winona a suitable location for the proposed College?
2. What amount (cash) can you pledge towards a College, and when can you pay it?
3. What amount of land can you pledge for a site; what is the location and value of the land; when can you convey it, and what title can you give?
4. What amount can you raise by subscription or in the form of stock for the erection of a College building?
5. What further inducements can you hold out for the location of our proposed college in your town?

A written and responsible proposal from your place, sent to R. Hall of St. Paul, by the first of May next, will receive the candid consideration of the committee in making out their report to the Conference.

Yours truly, (Signed by the Committee.)

This circular was sent to the churches in Anoka, Austin, Clearwater, Cottage Grove, Excelsior, Faribault, Lake City, Mantorville, Minneapolis, Monticello, Northfield, Owatonna, Plainview, Rochester, Saratoga, Saint Anthony, Saint Charles, Wabashaw, Winona, and Zumbrota; it being supposed that this number embraced all that would make any effort to secure the College.

Of the churches addressed by the circulars, responses were received from five, viz: From Zumbrota, Mantorville, Cottage Grove, Lake City, and Northfield.

The response from Zumbrota says: "We think that Zumbrota would be a good location for a College, but it is doubtful whether the pecuniary inducements we can offer will equal those of other and at present more populous localities. We can only pledge a cash subscription of one thousand dollars, a site of the value of three to five hundred dollars, and two thousand dollars in stock subscription. With regard to the advantages of our place, the committee can judge as well as we. Our village is improving, and we have a strong desire to have a seminary here of some kind."

(Signed by I. C. Stearns, in behalf of other citizens.)

The response from Mantorville by Robert Taylor, Esq., says: "Our people are really anxious to secure the location if possible, and I am requested as chairman of a committee appointed by our citizens to ascertain what could be done in the matter, to write you at some length respecting the inducements we have to offer. In point of wealth I presume we could not compete with many other towns in the State; and if our proposal is required to be simply given in dollars and cents, I fear we shall stand a very small if any show in the matter. But if the question be in regard to the furnishing of ample grounds, and the erection of a building of given proportions, together with the natural advantages of wood, water, health of location, and superior farming country around it, I feel confident that few, if any, towns in the State could compete with us. If you are acquainted with our town, you must be aware that we have the best and most convenient quarry of building stone in the State, and we firmly believe that we could erect, of the *finest cut stone*—for six or seven thousand dollars—a building which, in most parts of the State, would cost ten or twelve thousand dollars; and if our proposal can be made in the shape of granting an excellent site, and erecting a building upon a plan and specifications to be determined by your

Committee, which, (counting the cost of the material and labor at Rochester, for instance,) would cost twelve thousand dollars, I think our people would not hesitate to make the proposal. We have been making something of an effort in the way of pledges upon subscription to see what could be raised, and as the result of our effort we could not now pledge more than six thousand dollars in cash, besides the grounds, but we are confident that this sum applied to that purpose *here* would equal ten thousand dollars applied in most other towns in the State. We are also quite convenient of access, and I will venture the assertion that very few, if any, localities would yield as large a local support as ours in furnishing students to such an institution. If your committee have such power as would enable them to consider such a proposal as I refer to, and report upon the same, we hope you will be kiad enough to put us upon the track, and we will join heartily in the race. If not, at least lay our case informally before the Conference, and may be they will let us 'into the ring with our own armor on.'"

Cottage Grove responds as follows:

"The General Congregational Conference of the State of Minnesota, having appointed a committee to receive proposals for the location of a College in the State of Minnesota, to be under the supervision and control of persons of that denomination:

"We, the undersigned, do hereby severally promise and agree, in consideration and on the sole condition, that said College be located in the town of Cottage Grove, county of Washington and State of Minnesota, to pay the sums set opposite our respective names, or to convey the lands herein designated and described by us respectively, at the times specified below for such payments or conveyances, unto such trustees or persons as shall be authorized to receive the same, in trust for the location, construction and endowment of said College at the place aforesaid."

Then follow forty-three names subscribing various sums, every man's name having a five cent revenue stamp attached, making in the aggregate $8,170.00. To this is to be added $1,200.00 in money and land, secured by verbal promise, making a grand total of $9,370.00 offered from Cottage Grove. Included in this is a choice of three building lots; two of twenty acres each and one of eighteen acres, the least valuable of which is worth as much as $500. The locations offered are within thirteen miles of the capital of the State, and within three miles of a depot of a railroad soon to be constructed. They can be conveyed at once, and a perfect title given.

These proposals are signed by Geo. S. Biscoe and S. W. Furber.

Lake City responded by sending to the Committee the following minutes of the last public meeting of the citizens of that place, to consider the subject:

"At an adjourned town meeting of the legal voters of Lake City to take into consideration the voting a tax to assist in establishing a College in Lake City, to be under the auspices of the Congregational General Conference of Minnesota, held on Saturday evening, April 7th, 1866, the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Supervisors of the town of Lake City, or their successors in office, be, and by the adoption of this resolution are, instructed to issue bonds of said town to the amount of twenty thousand ($20,000.00) dollars, which bonds shall be payable in five annual payments, after the expiration of 5 years from their date, with interest at eight (8) per cent. per annum, payable only on consideration that the Congregational General Conference of the State of Minnesota, shall put in successful operation and maintain a College in the village of Lake City, endow the professorships therein, furnish suitable and sufficient library and apparatus therefor, so as to make it a success, that said bonds shall be payable to said Conference or their order, and shall express on their face the conditions upon which they are issued and payable, and shall be issued when the proper officers of said Conference shall make and execute a contract or agreement embodying therein the above conditions, to the said Supervisors or their successors in office.

(Signed) BENJ. C. BALDWIN, *Chairman.*"
D. C. ESTES, *Secretary.*

An accompanying communication dilates in graphic and just terms upon the unsurpassed picturesqueness and beauty of the scenery in and around Lake City, upon the advantage to a College, of an abundant and convenient supply of wood and water, such as they have to offer, of present and still greater prospective accessibility, and of the intelligence and high moral and religious character of the people. Add to this a subsequent offer of a beautiful site of ten acres for the College buildings within eighty rods of the center of the town; and notice the earnestness with which they say we (the members of the Congregational Church) are extremely desirous that the College should be located here, and the people of the town take great interest in it also, and feel that here will be a noble site for such an institution, and you have both the substance and the spirit of the response from Lake City.

Northfield responded in May by offering a cash subscription of $14,000, and a site of fifteen acres within eighty rods of the business center of the town, valued at $2,000; the subscription being payable one-third January 1, 1867; one-third January 1, 1868; and one- third January 1, 1869.

Responses from the fore-named places having been received early in May, a meeting of the Committee was called at the house of the Chairman in St. Paul, May 24th, to consider the proposals received, discuss the general subject, and lay plans for further action. Present at that meeting, Messrs. Burt, Sheldon, Goodsell and Hall.

After prayer for Divine guidance and blessing upon an undertaking which in the minds of the Committee was rapidly assuming features of commanding interest and importance to the cause of Christ in our State, the several proposals, with the accompanying communications, were separately read and considered.

It was then determined that Messrs. Burt, Goodsell and Hall should spend the next day, May 25th, in visiting Cottage Grove, twelve miles distant from St. Paul, in order to confer with leading citizens there, and examine the College site, offered at that place. The journey and the visit were pleasantly accomplished, affording to the Committee further gratifying evidence of the intelligence, liberality, thrift and public spirit of the Congregational Church and society, and of the citizens generally in that place. But as a site for the proposed College, it occurred to each of the Committee, as a fatal objection, that Cottage Grove has no village, no center of business and population, sufficiently large to furnish from itself any considerable number of students for the preparatory department, no adequate accommodations sufficiently near the College grounds for boarding and rooms for the students in private families, and no good prospect that the College would be adequately sustained by those strong and elevating social facilities and influences which can be secured for a large body of students only by congregating them in, or near, a village of considerable size. Had we half a million of dollars to expend at the outset of our enterprise, had we enough to call into being a village where now there is none, enough to make any solitary place at once bud and blossom as the rose, had we anything to rely upon in the way of means to begin with, beyond what will be furnished by the people of the place where the College shall be located, then the case would be different. But as it is, it is indispensable to the success of our undertaking that our College, when it shall be born, shall immediately be wrapped in the swaddling clothes of a good-sized village, and be nurtured by such social and religious influences as can be found only in the midst of a compact population, as well as under a religious tone of society. Add to this the fact that $8,000, or even $10,000, would not, in these times, be sufficient to erect in Cottage Grove a college building as large as would be necessary, and we seem to have reasons enough for deciding the question of location against these enterprising competitors.

May 25 having been spent at Cottage Grove, May 30 was spent by the same three members of the Committee at Lake City.

As a further evidence of the deep interest felt by the citizens of that place in the College enterprise, the Committee have especial occasion to remember with pleasure the cordial reception they received, and the facilities afforded them for seeing the unsurpassed beauty of the scenery and surroundings of Lake City, and the evidences of enterprise, intelligence and high moral and religious character in the people. Most deeply were they constrained to feel, that as a location for our proposed College, this place combined many very attractive features. A friendly public discussion, however, had by the Committee with a large number of the leading citizens on the practicability of aiding the enterprise by means of an issue of town bonds, made it evident to all that the plan was encumbered with insuperable difficulties. Besides the fact that the bonds, if negotiable at all, must be made so at a rate much below their par value, it was also considered that the resolution authorizing them, by its terms bound this Conference to conditions which it was impossible for us to comply with. Since the interview now alluded to with the citizens of Lake City, the Committee have been informed that this plan has been abandoned by them as impracticable; and as no other proposal has been substituted in its place, we are unable to report Lake City as at present preferring any claims to the honor of furnishing the desired location.

As to Mantorville, it is proper to say that in response to the communication from that place, it was visited July 5th by one member of the Committee, and a conference had with some of the leading citizens, and an examination made of two beautiful and commanding sites of fifteen acres each, immediately contiguous to the village, either of which was proffered as a location for the College. Also at the request of Mr. Robert Taylor and others, the Committee subsequently to this visit made out and forwarded to Mr. Taylor a written description of the size and style of the building, which, in their judgment, it would be necessary to have for the first College edifice, and the Committee have since been informed that the people of Mantorville have decided that they are not able to furnish such a building as would be required.

As the matter now stands, therefore, Lake City, Mantorville, and Zumbrota, have decided their own case, and have each virtually adjudged themselves unable to compete for the prize. The judgment of the Committee has also been given adversely to Cottage Grove, the only remaining competitor besides Northfield, mainly on the ground that it has no village of sufficient size, and that the amount of subscription falls short of what would be requisite in these times to erect a suitable building. An additional adverse consideration that would apply equally to Lake City and Cottage Grove as compared with Northfield, may be given in the fact that each of these places is located on the eastern border of the State, while Northfield

is more than twenty-five miles from that border at the nearest point. Other things being equal, an interior point would of course be universally considered preferable to the one on the border as a location for the College.

The considerations already adduced would seem to be amply sufficient to enable this Conference to reach at once a clear, decisive and unhesitating judgment in favor of Northfield, as being above all others the place for our proposed College.

But we have some additional considerations, of a very weighty character, with which to confirm and fortify our judgment. A portion of the Committee visited Northfield yesterday, to examine for the first time their proposed site; and we are prepared to say that in respect to security of title, extent of grounds, eligibleness of position, and beauty of scenery, it will, in our judgment, compare, to say the least, not unfavorably, with any of the sites we have been called to examine. Since the receipt of the proposal from Northfield, in May last, the area of the grounds offered has, by an enlargement of generosity, expanded from fifteen to twenty acres, which is the amount now tendered; and the subscription has advanced from $14,000 to $18,529, making, with the twenty acres and upwards, valued at $2,500, a grand total of $21,029 from Northfield. The present population of the place is about 1,500. In respect to intelligence, morals and religion, and also in respect to the relative standing and influence of the Congregational Church in the place, it is perhaps sufficient to say that we know of no town in the State that can show a better record, or one more promising for the College, as regards the important particulars now referred to. If, as we doubt not will be the case, the citizens of Northfield shall continue as they have begun, to be true to themselves and true to the College, then Christian parents from all parts of the State may send their sons and their daughters there to be educated, with the comforting assurance that while they are acquiring that mental discipline and those treasures of wisdom and knowledge which are to equip them for the battle of life, their virtue is at the same time to be guarded and preserved by social and religious influences as effective as can be found away from the parental roof.

Northfield is on the Minnesota Central Railroad. What other than a *central* Railroad should it be on, if it is to have a College for the whole State? And as showing that the *latitude* of the place, as well as its longitude, is what it should be for such a purpose, we would call attention to the fact that the census of 1865 shows the amount of population north of it to be 107,678, and that south of it 141,691. Running a line due east and west through Northfield, we find only about 34,000 more persons in the State south of that line than there are north of it. But as the immigration into the State since the census of 1865 has been more largely into the northern than the southern portions, it is probable that this small difference is already

made still smaller. The increase in future also is doubtless to be larger north than south. Is it providential that the place which now offers the greatest inducements for the location of the College is almost precisely central as to population? We believe it is, and none the less so because that nine years ago, on coming to Minnesota, Mr. Goodsell selected his location at Northfield with this object in view. Having a little property which he wished to consecrate to the object of making it the nucleus for a College, if God in his providence should open the way, his judgment—exercised prayerfully—indicated Northfield at that early day as most likely to be the point where the Lord might have use for his money and his efforts in founding a College. And in this connection the Committee desire to say that among all the advantages enumerated for Northfield, they deem it one of the most important, if not *the* most important, that in chosing this as the location, we shall doubtless be able to avail ourselves of the sound judgment, the untiring zeal, and the eminent financial ability of Mr. Goodsell, as the financial and general manager of the enterprise in its infancy. This, we think, will be invaluable to give us confidence in the enterprise ourselves, and also to secure us credit from abroad, when the time comes, as it has to all other Western colleges, and as it will to ours, when we shall appeal to Eastern as well as to Western benevolence, to help us adequately to endow our College. Then especially will it be important for us to be able to point to our rising infant College, and to say, "thus far its finances have been wisely and successfully managed." An Eastern gentleman of wealth and of well-known benevolence has, we are informed, already indicated his willingness to favor with material aid a Minnesota College like ours, when one shall appear having the marks of vitality and the signs of general promise requisite to inspire confidence in its ultimate success.

Adding now only one other item in regard to Northfield, and that is to say, we believe it has been proved that the very best of brick for building purposes can be made there, we conclude by recommending that Northfield be adopted by this Conference as the location for our proposed College, and that our Churches do here and now solemnly pledge to it their sympathies, their prayers, and their united influence in all proper and practicable ways, to build it up and make it a success and a blessing to our State and to the world. For this end, too, we deem it of the utmost importance that it be distinctly understood, that we have, and are to have, for at least a *long* time to come, only this one to which we thus give our endorsement. With *one*, we may hope to make it a success. With more than one, we shall, in our judgment, be nearly sure to fail of any. At the same time let us do all we can to encourage and build up any subordinate institutions like academies that may be needed to become feeders of the College by preparing students for it.

We appreciate the efforts that have been made in this direction by our brother, Rev. Charles Galpin, and his co-laborers, and we bid them a hearty God speed, and assure them of our sympathies and co-operation in their educational efforts at Excelsior.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. HALL,
C. B. SHELDON,
I. C. STEARNS.

RESOLUTIONS.

"*Resolved*, That we heartily recommend to our churches the cause of the freedmen of the South, as presented by the Union Freedmen's Aid Commission, in its care for their temporal wants, and the American Missionary Association, in its founding of schools and churches for their education and Christian organization.

"*Resolved*, That the signs of the times point toward the emancipation of the black man, as well from the bonds of ignorance as from a physical thraldom; and that we are looking hopefully to the recognition of the freedmen's rights to full citizenship, both as to civil rights and the ballot-box. and we are confident the causes alluded to in the foregoing resolution hold a most intimate relation to the future safety of our country in its political as well as in its religious aspect.

"*Resolved*, That we call the attention of our clergy and the churches to the causes mentioned in the foregoing resolutions, as demanding full and frequent representation, and urge prompt benevolent action, both on the grounds of Christian duty and of political policy.

"*Resolved*, That whereas, in these days, when diplomacy is used to accomplish the work of dismemberment in our nation, which has failed to be achieved by rebellion, we feel called upon to give expression to our views in the present political crisis as follows:

"First—That our love for our country and the principles of universal liberty for men and conscience, which are represented by our national banner, is unwavering in war and peace; and that we will watch with vigilance any attempt to overthrow them, either by force of arms or by the wiles of unprincipled politicians; feeling that in the great work begun by Lincoln, God has given a holy cause for the union of the political and religious interests by all his acknowledged children in America.

"Second—That the pledges made the freedmen by our lamented President, and at first endorsed by the present Chief Magistrate, now devolve upon the

Christian community, whose duty it now becomes to use every influence toward the accomplishment of the great work so pledged to those who have been recently emancipated from slavery.

"Third—That we heartily endorse the policy of our Congress in the matter of reconstruction of the late insurrectionary States, and that we will sustain and support by our prayers and our influence the men who, from all parts of our loyal country, so faithfully represent their constituents; and that we look with unfeigned displeasure upon any tendency toward a centralization of power in the Chief Magistrate of the land.

"Fourth—That we look to the loyal men who have stood by the flag throughout the late terrible war as the men who are to take the reins of government in their hands; and that we do not mean to permit a mistaken sense of philanthropy or of mercy to lead to any pledges of position and of power to those who have so lately lifted their hands against our nation's life and honor, till they have fully proved their repentance and loyalty to the nation, not alone through empty words, but by acts, both toward the nation itself and the loyal whites and freedmen of the South.

"Fifth—That we will not give our countenance or support to those men who, having once pledged themselves to the cause of freedom and of right, have, through hopes of position or power, been induced to utter opinions adverse to those we have been accustomed to hear from them, and who are now holding intimate connections with those who have been, and still are, in sympathy with the South in their hate toward the North, and toward the freedom of the negroes of the South.

"Sixth—That the late citizen soldiers of the loyal army have our hearty sympathy, and that we will, by every means in our power, aid and assist them in securing that degree of religious, social, and educational advantage for themselves and their children, which their eminent services give them a right to demand from all loyal people; and that the widows and orphans of those who have fallen while in the country's service shall find place in our hearts, and shall be relieved by every proper means in our power to bestow.

"Seventh—That our trust is in the God of Nations, to whom we look in unfeigned confidence and hope; and that we will work and pray for our land, in the full assurance that His blessings in the past is the harbinger of continued blessings in the future.

"*Resolved*, That the A. B. C. F. M. has our entire confidence, as the channel through which to make contributions to the heathen.

"*Resolved*, That we cordially recommend the American Home Missionary Society to our churches, as the method of reaching the destitute parts of

our country, and urge special effort on the part of our churches to raise funds in view of the demands of our growing State.

"*Resolved*, That we will cheerfully aid the American Bible Society in securing the co-operation of the churches in the important task of Bible distribution.

"*Resolved*, That in the American Tract Society at Boston, we recognize the medium through which the Lord Jesus Christ has permitted the churches to do a work of untold good in the West, among the troops of the late army and the freedmen of the South; and we recommend the cause to our churches in the State, while we bid the good work God speed.

"*Resolved*, That we hail with joy all indications of a revival of effort in behalf of Temperance, and that we will devote ourselves to forward the good work by all the moral, social, and legal forces at our command.

"*Resolved*, That we commend to our churches the work of the Sunday School Union.

"*Resolved*, That this Conference has heard with profound sorrow, of the death of Hon. R. G. Lincoln, the last presiding officer of this body; that they recognize the hand of God at once in the good work He has permitted our lamented brother to perform, and that they tender to his afflicted wife and family their kindest sympathy and prayer.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference be returned to the railroad companies, for their generous reduction in fare to such of its members as passed over their roads. Also, that we tender our thanks to the railroad and steamboat companies, and to Burbank & Co.'s Stage Line, for their generous reduction in fare to resident clergymen in the State.

"*Resolved*, That we tender our hearty thanks to the citizens of this place for their very generous hospitality to the members of the Conference, and that we pray our Father who is in Heaven, that His choicest blessings, both temporal and spiritual, may be showered on the churches here."

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1866.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	Ministers	Commenced Labor.	Condition Sept. 1, 1866 — Members. Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Add'ns. Profession.	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Excommunications.	Letter.	Total.	Bapt Adults.	Infants.	Sunday School and Bible Scholars	Benevolent Contributions.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66	6	14	20	1	1	...	1	...	...	3	3	...	...	50	$35 00	
Albert Lea	April 24, '59	Philo Canfield	Oct. 9, '64	6	17	23	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	50	45 00	
Anoka	May 6, '55	A. K. Packard	March 9, '60	18	40	58	12	5	...	5	2	...	4	6	2	...	71	116 75	Hoping to build during the year.
Austin	July 6, '57	A. Morse	Dec. 1, '64	20	29	49	...	2	6	8	1	...	1	2	...	...	60	.....	Foundation laid for Church.
Cannon Falls	Aug. '56	J. R. Barnes	May 16, '65	7	10	17	1	1	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	4	20	12 00	Building a Church.
Chain Lake Center	May 27, '65	J. C. Strong	Feb. 20, '64	7	10	17	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	.....	
Claremont	April '60	C. Shedd	April '60	2	6	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	7 00	Union S. S.
Clearwater	April 20, '59	W. B. Dada	Nov. 1, '62	17	45	62	6	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	80	88 00	
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, '58	G. S. Biscoe	Nov. '61	16	24	40	8	...	3	3	...	...	2	2	...	6	20	36 00	
Elgin	April 10, '58	Unsupplied	.....	10	14	24	3	...	1	1	...	...	4	4	...	...	.....	15 00	Union S. S.
Excelsior&Chanhas'n	July 17, '58	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55	37	49	86	14	1	1	2	...	...	2	2	...	6	60	207 88	
Faribault, 1st Cong'l.	May 31, '56	Edmund Gale	April 1, '66	31	49	80	13	2	13	15	1	...	36	37	...	...	134	124 07	
" Plymouth	Jan. 26, '66	J. W. Strong	Jan. '66	27	42	69	8	14	55	69	...	...	...	...	4	8	110	299 28	
Guilford	April '60	A Morse	Dec. 1, '64	3	7	10	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	.....	.....	
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57	B. F. Haviland	Oct. '65	8	14	22	...	7	4	11	...	...	2	2	1	...	30	20 00	Just finishing House of Worship.
Hamilton	June 23, '60	J. S. Rounce	March 15,'63	9	12	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	No report. Membership of last [year re-inserted.
Hammond, Wis	July 6, '58	J. W. Miller	May 1, '65	17	19	36	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	45	.....	
Hebron	Sept. 10, '64	J. B. Ladd	Nov. '66	5	6	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	.....	
High Forrest	June 21, '60	J. S. Rounce	March 15,'63	0	15	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	No report. Membership of last
Hudson, Wis	Aug. 6, '57	J. H. Bradford	July 1, '65	13	37	50	12	2	5	7	1	...	4	5	1	.	50	163 00	[year re-inserted.
Hutchinson	Feb. 7, '62	Unsupplied	.....	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	Union S. S.
Lake City	Aug. '56	Ed. Anderson	Feb. 3, '66	29	49	78	10	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	88 65	Church enlarged; Parsonage
Lakeland	May 6, '58	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66	10	14	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	[built; New Organ purchased.
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57	G. Bent	March '61	7	9	16	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	14 35	
Lewiston	Feb. 16, '59	J. R. Barnes	May 16, '65	5	5	10	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	40	12 00	
Malone, Wis	Aug. 5, '60	Unsupplied	.....	12	15	27	5	5	3	8	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	25 00	[year.
Mantorville	March '58	L. J. Sawyer	1866	8	21	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	No report. Figures same as last

Marine	Feb. 8, '58	Unsupplied		2	7	9											58			
Mazeppa	May 19, '60	W. Bigelow	Nov. 1, '62	4	16	20	4				1		1	2				35	0	Union S. S. [year.
Medford	Oct. 25, '56	J. J. Aiken (Presb.)	Aug. 20, '65	12	16	28														No report. Figures same as last
Minneapolis	April 28, '57	C. C. Salter	Oct. 26, '62	82	134	216	15	6	22	48	4		11	15	12	7	200	729	57	Revival; 200 sittings added to
Monticello	March 8, '56	Unsupplied		15	18	30	2	2		2					1		75	75	00	[House of Worship; $1200.00
Northfield	Aug. 30, '56	E. S. Williams	March 26, '64	53	92	145		12	6	18	3		10	13	1	3	80	150	00	[raised for Miss. Chapel.
Orono	May 11, '61	Unsupplied		10	11	21	1	10	3	13	1		1	2	9		40	30	00	
Owatonna	Oct 22, '57	L. S. Griggs	Aug. 1, '66	18	34	52		4	12	16			4	4	3		80			No record of Benv. Con. kept.
Painesville	July 29, '66	Unsupplied		4	2	6				6										
Plainview	Oct. 7, '63	H. Willard	Sept. '63	13	23	36	8	1	5	6	1		2	3		4		40	00	Union S. S.
Prairieville East	May '60	L. C. Gilbert	1865	19	18	37	11	1	1	2	1		4	5	1		82	36	60	[ing Church.
Prescott, Wis	Feb. 15, '52	M. M. Martin	Nov. 1, '65	32	36	68	14	3	7	10			6	6	1		75	25	00	Raised $500 or $600 for repair-
Preston	May '58	Unsupplied		5	4	9														No report; same as last year.
Princeton	July '56	Unsupplied		8	11	19														No report; same as last year.
Quincy	May '63	Unsupplied		6	9	15	2	6	1	7	1	1		2	3		60	8	00	
Richmond, Wis	1864	Unsupplied		5	10	15	4											2	50	
River Falls, Wis	Feb. 3, '55	Wm. Gill	Nov. 1, '62	28	68	96	3	14	3	17	1		9	10	10	4	150	181	80	
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58	W. R. Stevens	Oct. 14, '62	28	47	75	3	12	11	33	2		5	7	6		82			No record of Benv. Con. kept.
Rushford	March 1, '60	W. W. Suell	May 18, '55	4	10	14										1	44	27	65	
Saratoga	July 25, '56	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66	13	13	26			1	1										
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 28, '55	S. Hall	1854	5	7	12	1						1	1			20	15	00	
Shakopee (German)	Oct. 1, '60	A. Blumer	Jan. 1, '60	5	9	14		2		2			2	2		3	25	49	00	
Spring Valley	May 24, '56	Unsupplied		25	26	51	8		2	2	2		2	4		1		29	50	Union S. S. Are building Church.
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, '51	O. Clark	Sept. '66	26	54	80	18	3	8	11			5	5	3	7	50	76	51	
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '59	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66	11	19	30	6	1	2	3			5	5	1		100	85	00	
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64	Unsupplied		6	5	11	1		2	2			2	2						About to build.
St. Paul	June 17, '58	L. J. White	Nov. '66	16	35	51	19	2	3	5	1		9	10			100			
Sterling	Aug. '57	N. A. Hunt	March 1, '64	22	23	45	1		1	1						1	50			
Vernon Center	Oct 23, '64	N. A. Hunt	Feb. '64	3	4	7		1		1					1					
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57	E. Hildreth	May '65	26	36	62	10	1	2	3	1		5	6		2	93			
Warren	June 10 '63	W. Porteus	June '0, '63	7	6	13														No report; same as last year.
Warren, Wis	Oct. 3, '63	Unsupplied		4	8	12					1		3	4				15	00	
Wasioja	June '58	C. Shedd	June '58	7	14	21	2		1	1						1		7	50	Union S. S
Whitewater Falls	Sept. 1, '58	Unsupplied		3	3	6														No report; same as last year.
West Eau Claire, Wis	Dec. 56	G. Spaulding	April '65	32	46	62	17	9	11	27		2	7	9	4	7	120	125	00	Soc'y has raised $275 for Organ;
Winnebago City	May 28, '59	E. W. Merrill	Sept. 4, '66	5	13	18	3										30			[$100 for S. S.; and $330
Winona	Dec. 10, '54	J. F. Dudley	Sept. 1, '66	48	99	147	17	1	6	17	1		3	14		3	250	300	00	[Donation to Pastor.
York (Dutch)	Oct. 1, '65	H. M. H. Stroes	Sept. 1, '65	14	11	25	1	1	7	8	1			1		3	15	3	75	Prospects good.
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	Unsupplied		23	32	55	6		9	9	4		2	6				150	00	

SUMMARY.

Whole number of Churches, 66; of which 8 are in Wisconsin. Whole membership, 2569—976 Males, 1793 Females. Whole number of additions, 392, to wit: 156 on profession and 236 by letter. Adult baptisms, 68; Infant baptisms, 71. S. S. and Bible Class scholars, 2880. Benev. Contributions, $3638.26.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1866.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation	P. O. Address.	Association.
Anderson, Ed	Oct. 13, '58	Stated Supply	Lake City	Kalamazoo, Mich.
Andrews D	Jan. 29, '40	Without Charge.	Winona	Southern Minnesota.
Barnes, J R	1838	Stated Supply	Cannon Falls	Central "
Bigelow, Warren	Nov. 13, '54	"	Mazeppa	Southern "
Biscoe, G. S	Oct. 25, '61	Pastor	Cottage Grove	Central "
Blumer, Adam	Feb. 4 '57	Stated Supply	Shakopee	" "
Bradford, J. H	Feb. 8, '61	"	Hudson, Wis	
Brown, Ed	Jan. 13, '53	Agent A. T. S	Zumbrota	Southern Minnesota.
Burt, David	Nov. 4, '51	Freedmen's Bu	Nashville, Tenn	" "
Caufield, Philo	Feb. , '47	Stated Supply	Albert Lea	" "
Clark, Orlando	May '65	"	St. Anthony	Missouri.
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56	Pastor	Clearwater	Central Minnesota.
Dudley, J. F	Dec. 29, '64	Stated Supply	Winona	" "
Fox, A. K	Oct. 25, '69	"	Sauk Center	Central Minnesota.
Gale, Edmund	Dec. 24, '56	"	Faribault	Kalamazoo, Mich.
Galpin, Charles	Sept. '44	Without Charge.	Excelsior	Central Minnesota.
Gilbert, L. C	July 16 '40	Stated Supply	East Prairieville	" "
Gill, Wm	May 26, '63	Pastor	River Falls, Wis	" "
Griggs, L. S	June 23, '64	Stated Supply	Owatonna	Southern "
Hall, R	Aug. 8, '50	Agent A.H.M.S	St. Paul	Central "
Hall, S	June '31	Stated Supply	Sauk Rapids	" "
Haviland, B. F	Dec. 21, '59	"	Glencoe	" "
Hildreth, E	Dec. 30, '62	"	Wabashaw	Southern "
Hunt, N. A	1846	"	Sterling	" "
Ladd, J. B		"	Hebron	
Martin, M. M	Aug. 24, '65	"	Prescott, Wis	Central "
Merrill, E. W	April 5, '64	"	Winnebago City	Southern "
Miles, G. H	1860	"	St. Charles	Kalamazoo, Mich.
Miller, J. W	May 26, '63	"	Hammond, Wis	Central Minnesota.
Morse, Alfred	1847	"	Austin	Southern "
Packard, A. K	Dec. 16, '51	Pastor	Anoka	Central "
Porteus, Wm	May 21, '55.	Stated Supply	Frank Hill	Southern "
Roe, A. D	Licentiate	"	Afton	
Rounce, J. S	Feb. '52	"	Hamilton	Central Minnesota.
Salter, C. C	April 20, '59.	Pastor	Minneapolis	" "
Sawyer, L. J		Stated Supply	Manterville	
Seccombe Charles	Aug. 8, '50	Without Charge.	St Anthony	Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles	March '42	Stated Supply	Wasioja	Southern "
Sheldon, C. B	Oct. 9, '51	Pastor Elect	Excelsior	Central "
Snell, W. W	Oct. 16, '59	Stated Supply	Rushford	Southern "
Spaulding, G	May 10, '48	"	W. Eau Claire, Wis	Central "
Sterry, D. C	June '36	Without Charge.	Lake City	Southern "
Stevens, W. R	April '47	Stated Supply	Rochester	Central "
Stroes, H M. H	July 3, '61	"	Forestville	
Strong, J. C	Dec. 16, '46	"	Chain Lake Center	Southern Minnesota.
Strong, J W	Sept. 28, '62	Pastor	Faribault	Central "
Tappan, C. L	Jan. 28, '64	Editor	Owatonna	" "
Teele, Edwin	Oct. 18, '52	Without Charge.	Bristol Center	Southern "
Twichell, Royal	Jan. 12, '42	"	Anoka	Central "
White, L. J		Stated Supply	St. Paul	
Willard, Henry	Oct. 6, '58	"	Plainview	Southern Minnesota.
Williams, E. S	June 10, '04	Pastor	Northfield	Central Minnesota.
Williams, J. N	July '47	Missionary	Lake City	Central Minnesota.

SUMMARY.

Pastors	7
Stated Supplies	34
Missionary	1
Agent of A. H. M. S	1
Agent of Am. Tract Soc'y	1
Editor	1
Others	7
Total	52

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.			Place of Meeting	Moderator.	Recording Secretary.	Corresponding Secretary.	Statistical Secretary.	Preacher and Text.
October 24, 1856.			St. Anthony.....	Rev. S. Hall.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. C. Seccombe...		Rev. W. R. Stevens...John 1:4
Annual Meeting on Second Thursday of October each year.	1	1857	Prescott, Wis.....	Rev. L. Armsby.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. C. Seccombe...		Rev. C. B. Sheldon ...2 Cor. 4:7
	2	1858	Faribault.....	Rev. D. Andrews.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. C. Seccombe...	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev R. Hall.....Rev. 11:15
	3	1859	Winona	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev L Armsby.....Rev. 3:18
	4	1860	St. Paul.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev. D Andrews.....Is. 55:10, 11
	5	1861	Anoka.....	Rev. O A. Thomas...	Rev C. B. Sheldon.....	Rev. D Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev A. S Fiske.....Phil. 4:6
	6	1862	Northfield	Rev. C Shedd.....	Rev. A. K Packard.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev. C. Shedd.....2 Thess. 2:13
	7	1863	Lake City.....	Rev. W R. Stevens...	Rev. A K Packard....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev. J. W. Miller.....Jn. 17:20, 21
	8	1864	Rochester	Bro C M Goodsell...	Rev A. K. Packard....	Rev D Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev C Seccombe.....Prov. 24:10
	9	1865	Minneapolis	Bro R G. Lincoln ...	Rev J. F Dudley.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev D. Burt.....Eph. 2:1
	10	1866	Faribault.....	Bro. W J. Copp	Rev. J. F. Dudley.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.....	Rev. A. B. Smith.....Matt. 23:8

HISTORICAL SUMMARY CONTINUED.

Annual Meeting on the SECOND THURSDAY of October of each Year.	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removals.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommunicated.			Adult.	Infant.		
1856.....	8...	9...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
1857.....	16...	16...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
1858.....	41...	27...	137.....	267.....	5.....	40.....	0.....	1037.....	71.....	42.....	41.....	1116.....	$ 966 58
1859.....	51...	36...	179.....	283.....	13.....	66.....	1	1446.....	99.....	75.....	95.....	1841.....	$ 725 31
1860.....	63...	43...	185.....	201.....	19.....	140	3.....	1630.....	180.....	72.....	90.....	1868.....	$ 821 90
1861.....	64...	46...	90.....	122.....	12.....	91.....	12.....	1539.....	169	26.....	66.....	1841.....	$1103 92
1862.....	61...	41...	87.....	105.....	16	48.....	7.....	1514.....	256.....	16.....	60.....	1843.....	$ 730 56
1863.....	59...	45...	118.....	125.....	28.....	70.....	2.....	1877.....	297.....	85.....	63.....	1244.....	$ 029 14
1864.....	68...	47...	255.....	498	33	109	3.....	2140.....	314.....	118	85.....	2737.....	$2644 66
1865.....	64...	47..	185.....	169.....	28.....	107.....	7.....	2465.....	324.....	77.....	71.....	2623.....	$3062 56
1866.....	66..	52...	156.....	236.....	33.....	169.....	5.....	2569.....	281.....	68.....	7	2880.....	$3638 26

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws; each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained Ministers, who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5 There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the Records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at seven o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual Meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrange, ments, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting.

and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver, and moral Governor of the Universe; a Spiritual Being of Infinite Wisdom, Power, Justice, Goodness and Truth; self-existent, independent, and unchangeable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of Divine Truth, and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of the Divine Existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of Persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, the same in essence, and in all Divine Attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for Himself; that known unto Him were all His works from the beginning; and that He has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of His own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the Divine Law, and the principles of the Divine Government, are perfectly holy, just, and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state, by voluntarily transgressing the Divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to His wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that He took our nature upon Him, and by His sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men; so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely, yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began; and that they are saved not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ, there is no condemnation, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead; that all mankind must one day stand before the Judgment-Seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works; and that from the Judgment-Seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only can consistently partake of the Holy Supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of Baptism.

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1867

MINUTES

OF THE

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

Congregational Conference,

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT ST. CLOUD, OCTOBER 10, 1867.

WINONA:
REPUBLICAN PRINTING HOUSE.
1867.

NOTICES.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, will be held at Owatonna, in October, 1868, commencing on the second Thursday, (8th) at 7 o'clock P. M. Preacher of opening sermon, Rev. J. W. Strong; Alternate, Rev. A. Fuller.

The Central Association will hold its next Annual Meeting at Anoka, the first Tuesday in June, (2d) 1868.

The Southern Association meets semi-annually on the Third Tuesday of Junuary, and the Third Tuesday of June. The next meeting will be held at St. Charles, Jan. 21st 1868.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE,

OF MINNESOTA.

MINUTES.

ST. CLOUD, OCTOBER 10, 1867.

The representatives of the Churches of the GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE of Minnesota, assembled for the Eleventh Annual Session of the Conference, at St. Cloud, Thursday evening, October 10, 1867.

The opening service was held in the new Congregational House of Worship, at 7½ o'clock. Sermon by Rev. E. J. HART, of Massachusetts. Text—Luke 19: 11–27.

After service, Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary, Rev. J. F. DUDLEY, of Winona, and permanent organization was postponed to Friday morning, at 8½ o'clock. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, OCT. 11, 8½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary, and prayer was offered by Rev. E. BROWN

Rev. L. S. GRIGGS, of Owatonna, was chosen Scribe.

The members of Conference were then enrolled as follows, viz:

Churches Represented.	Pastors and Ministers in charge.	Delegates.
Afton	A. D. Roe	
Anoka	A. K. Packard	
Austin	A. Morse	
Clearwater	W. B. Dada	H. Woodward.
East Prairieville	L. C. Gilbert	
Faribault (Plymouth)	J. W. Strong	R. H. Kinney.
Lake City		C. W. Hackett.
Lakeland	A. D. Roe	
Minneapolis	C. C. Salter	W. Cheney.
" Vine St.	W. Leavitt	
Monticello	B. A. Dean	J. B. Blanchard.
Northfield	E. S. Williams	M. Porter.
Owatonna	L. S. Griggs	W. H. Vinton.
Painesville	S. D. Trembly	D. S. Twichell.
Plainview	H. Willard	
Quincey	N. H. Pierce	
Rochester	A. Fuller	Rev. E. Brown.
Sauk Center	A. K. Fox	
Sauk Rapids	S. Hall	
Spring Valley	V. M. Hardy	
St. Cloud		Geo. I. Porter.
St. Paul	L. J. White	Rev. R. Hall.
Wabashaw	H. Loomis, Jr.	
Winona	J. F. Dudley	M. J. Laird.
Zumbrota	C. Seccombe	I. C. Stearns.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. Mr. Campbell, Pastor of Presbyterian Church, St. Cloud.
Rev. Mr. Creighton, Pastor of M. E. Church, "
Rev. Orlando Clark, St. Anthony.
Rev. E. J. Hart, Andover, Mass.
Rev. W. W. Norton, Delegate from Gen. Association of New York.
Rev. N. J. Robinson, Minister of the Free-Will Baptist Church.
Rev. J. R. Shipherd, Secretary of American Missionary Association.
Rev. Lyman Whiting, Delegate from General Association of Iowa.

Rev. James W. Strong, pastor of the Plymouth Church, Faribault, was elected Moderator.

The Moderator was instructed to appoint the customary committees, viz: On Place and Preachers for the next meeting, on Correspondence with other Religious Bodies, on Resolutions, and on Printing and Finance, as required by the By-Laws; and Revs. A. Fuller and W. B. Dada were appointed a committee to assist in the appointment of the same.

Voted, That a Committee of three be appointed to consider and report on the subject of the Sabbath.

Voted, That a Committee of three be appointed to examine the Articles of Faith submitted by any Churches wishing to be admitted to Conference, and report on same.

Voted, That the Committee of Arrangements be instructed to appoint a Corresponding Secretary *pro tem.*

The Committee of Arrangements reported as follows, through Rev. A. K. Packard, Chairman:

That the Conference meet this P. M. and evening, at 2 and 7½ o'clock, and adjourn at 12, 5, and 9 o'clock. That the Sessions of to-morrow (Saturday), be from 9 to 12 A. M., from 2 to 5 P. M., and from 7½ to 9 in the evening. That from 10 to 11 A. M. be given to devotional exercises and religious conference.

That reports of Committees and other business be taken up in the following order, viz:

1. Rev. J. R. Shipherd to present the cause of the American Missionary Association, and to speak for "*The Advance.*"
2. Reports of Delegates to Foreign Bodies.
3. " from "
4. Report of the Committee on Finance and Printing.
5. Report of the Agent appointed by the Board of Trustees, last year, to collect funds for Northfield College.
6. Report of the Treasurer of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society.
7. Report of the Statistical Secretary.
8. Addresses from the representatives of Benevolent Societies.
9. Reports from the Churches to be the special order from 3 to 5 o'clock this P. M.

Report adopted.

Conference listened to remarks by Rev. J. R. Shipherd, Secretary of the American Missionary Association, and representative of "The Advance" newspaper.

The hour from 10 to 11 o'clock was spent in prayer, conference and singing; Rev. A. Morse, of Austin, in the chair.

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11 O'CLOCK.—The Moderator reported the following Committees, viz:

On Place and Preachers for next meeting,—Revs. A. K. Packard and E. S. Williams, and Bro. H. Woodward.

On Correspondence with other Religious Bodies,—Revs. A. Fuller and H. Willard, and Bro. R. H. Kinney.

On Resolutions,—Revs. C. Seccombe and R. Hall, and Bro. C. W. Hackett.

On Printing and Finance,—Revs. J. F. Dudley and L. S. Griggs, and Bro. Wm. Cheney.

On Observance of the Sabbath,—Revs. E. Brown and A. Morse, and Bro. I. C. Stearns.

On Admission of Churches,—Revs. R. Hall, E. Brown, and E. S. Williams.

The Committee of Arrangements reported the appointment of Rev. A. Fuller as Corresponding Secretary *pro tem.*

Conference listened further to Rev. J. R. Shipherd, speaking in behalf of the American Missionary Association and "The Advance." At the close of his remarks, the following resolution was adopted, viz·

Resolved, That we welcome the appearance of the new national religious newspaper, at Chicago, "THE ADVANCE," and in the confidence that it will steadily improve upon its promising beginning, and fill a most important sphere, hitherto painfully vacant, we commend it to all our churches, as entitled to a cordial reception and a fair trial.

At this point, different members of Conference united in subscribing for one share of "Advance" stock at $100.

Voted, That the By-Law requiring the calling of the Roll be suspended.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock, P. M.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.—Conference came to order, the Moderator in the chair. After singing,

"I love thy kingdom, Lord,"

Prayer was offered by Rev. A. K. Fox, of Sauk Center.

Voted, That the Stock subscribed for "The Advance" be held in trust for the Conference by the Trustees of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society; the avails to be applied to the objects of the Society, and the vote to be cast by the Treasurer of the same, in accordance with the wishes of Conference.

Conference proceeded to the second division of business, viz: Reports of Delegates to Foreign Bodies. No report of a personal visit to any Religious Body outside the State. A few Delegates had communicated by letter.

Under the third division of business, Conference listened to Rev. Lyman Whiting, of Dubuque, Iowa, delegate from the General Association of Iowa. A suitable response was made by the Moderator.

THREE o'CLOCK having arrived, the special order was taken up, viz: Reports from the Churches; each speaker being limited to five minutes.

(See Report on the State of Religion in the Churches. Appendix.)

Rev. S. D. Trembly, of Painesville, having asked to be excused that he might return home to hasten the work of building a House of Worship, a collection was taken to load his returning wagon with lumber, and the amount collected, ($32 50) was presented to him by the Moderator, with appropriate remarks, to which Bro. Trembly responded amid much enthusiasm.

Voted, That the report of Churches be suspended here with the report from the Church at Painesville, and be made the special order for tomorrow at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The third division of business was here resumed, and Conference listened to Rev. W. W. Norton, delegate from the General Association of New York, and Rev. E. J. Hart, of Mass.

The Moderator responded.

Letters were read from the following Bodies, viz: the General Associations of California, Illinois, Iowa and New York, and the General Conferences of Maine and Ohio.

The Committee of Arrangements modified their report, by making the Report of the Agent of Northfield College the special order for to-morrow morning, at 11 o'clock.

Roll called.

After singing L. M. Doxology, adjourned to meet at 7½ o'clock..

7½ o'clock.—Conference met for public worship. Introductory services by the Moderator and Rev. C. C. Salter, of Minneapolis. Sermon by Rev. Lyman Whiting, of Dubuque, Iowa. Text, 1 Cor. 1: 23. Adjourned to 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Conference called to order by the Moderator. Prayer was offered by Rev. L. C. Gilbert, of East Prairieville. The hymn

"O! for a closer walk with God,"

was sung. The minutes were read, amended and approved.

The Chairman of the Committee on Printing and Finance, read report, which was accepted and adopted.

(See Appendix.)

The Statistical Secretary reported. The report was accepted and recommitted for completion.

The hour from 10 to 11 o'clock was spent in prayer, conference and singing; Bro. Wm. Cheney, of Minneapolis, in the chair.

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11 o'clock.—The agent appointed by the Trustees of Northfield College, to collect funds for that Institution, (Rev. C. Seccombe), gave a statement of his success.

(See Appendix.)

The following Resolution was adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be tendered to Rev. Chas. Seccombe for the ability, energy and enthusiasm with which he has prosecuted the work, securing the fund proposed to be raised by the Congregational Churches of this State, in behalf of Northfield College."

Rev. R. Hall, President of the Board of Trustees, of Northfield College, stated the progress made in that enterprise during the past year.

Rev. Lyman Whiting, delegate from the General Association of Iowa, addressed the Conference, urging a bold and immediate advance towards the establishment of a complete College, and took leave of Conference. The Moderator made a suitable response. Adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

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2 o'CLOCK P. M.—Conference called to order by the Moderator. After singing

"All hail the power of Jesus' name,"

Rev. Wm. Leavitt led in prayer.

Voted, That the following be adopted as a By-law of the Conference, viz:—"At each annual meeting of the Conference, a visiting committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed, to examine into the condition of Northfield College, and report at the next meeting."

The following resolutions were adopted, viz:

1. That we recognize with profound gratitude the manifest hand of God, in the success which has thus far attended our efforts in the establishment of a College at Northfield, and that we pledge ourselves anew to its financial and moral support, and will especially exert our influence to direct the attention of students to the advantages there offered.

2. That taking courage from the success which, under the good hand of God, has so far attended their efforts, we hope that the Trustees of the College may see their way clear to push the enterprise vigorously and promptly forward, to a fully developed College."

The committee on the admission of new churches reported favorably to the admission of

The Congregational Church at Somerset,
" " " Sauk Center,
" " " Grove Lake.

Report adopted.

Voted, In conformity with the recommendation of the same committee, that the Welch Congregational church, of Butternut Valley, be received to Conference, on condition that the committee ascertain that their dissent from the thirteenth article of the confession of Faith of Conference, is owing to a misunderstanding of the same. Otherwise the name of the church to be dropped from the record.

The committee on correspondence with other Religious Bodies reported.

(See Appendix.)

Report adopted.

Voted, In conformity with the recommendation of the committee on the admission of churches, that the following churches, viz:

The Second Congregational Church at Minneapolis,
" " " " Lansing,
" " " " Woodland Mills,
" " " " Bristol Center,
" Welch " " " Bristol,

Be received to Conference, on condition of the presentation by them, to the Committee, of a satisfactory Confession of Faith.

Voted, That the Recording Secretary be instructed to furnish a brief circular letter, setting forth the progress and condition of our churches, for the use of delegates from this to other Religious Bodies; also certificates for the same.

The Treasurer *pro tem.* of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, Rev. E. S. Williams, presented his report.

Report adopted.

(See Appendix.)

3 o'clock. Voted that the special order be deferred twenty minutes.

The Committee on the Sabbath reported through Rev. E. Brown, chairman.

Report accepted, and recommitted for modification.

The Committee of Arrangements reported order of exercises for the Sabbath.

The Committee on Place and Preachers for next session of Conference, reported as follows, viz:

Next Place of Meeting—Owatonna.
Preacher—Rev. Jas. W. Strong.
Alternate—Rev. A. Fuller.
Committee of Arrangement—Revs. Griggs, Miles, and Morse.

Report adopted.

The Committee on the Sabbath returned their report modified.

Report adopted.

(See Appendix.)

Conference elected the following officers for the ensuing year, viz:

Treasurer—Rev. J. F. Dudley.

Auditor—Deacon A. N. Stoughton.

Report adopted.

3.20 o'clock. Reports from churches resumed, beginning with the church at Princeton.

(See report of Corresponding Secretary, Appendix.)

A communication was read by the Moderator, from the Superintendent of the Minnesota Institution for Deaf, Dumb and Blind, at Faribault, Prof. J. L. Noyes, desiring the ministers of the State to inform him of any deaf and dumb, or blind persons, between the ages of 8 and 25, that might properly become inmates of that Institution.

Conference listened to Rev. E. Brown, presenting the claims of the Am. Tract Society, Boston.

Adjourned to 7½ evening.

7½ p. m. Conference met for public worship. Introductory services by the Moderator and Rev. A. Morse of Austin. Sermon by Rev Wm. Leavitt, of Minneapolis; Text Isaiah 40, 1.

Conference listened to a communication from the managers of the St. Paul Orphan Asylum.

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to nominate a committee to visit Northfield College. The Moderator appointed Revs. Brown, Salter, and Morse.

The Committee on resolutions reported.

Report adopted.

(See Appendix.)

The committee appointed to nominate a committee to visit Northfield College, reported as follows, viz:

Prof. J. L. Noyes of Faribault, Rev. A. Morse of Austin,
Rev. A. Fuller of Rochester, O. O. Baldwin, Esq., of Rochester.
Dea. Geo. Harris of Minneapolis.

Report adopted.

Voted, That Rev. E. Brown be requested to prepare obituaries of Revs. W. R. Stevens, and W. Bigelow, deceased during the past year, and submit to Conference to-morrow evening.

Voted, That the sincere and hearty thanks of Conference be extended to the people of St. Cloud, for their generous hospitality, and to the choir of the Congregational Church, for their services during the session.

Voted, That the thanks of Conference be extended to the R. R. Companies, for the reduction of fares on their respective roads.

Voted, That the Central and Southern Associations of Minnesota be permitted to publish the notice of their meetings, and order of exercises, with the minutes of Conference.

After singing

"Thus far the Lord hath led me on,"

Adjourned to to-morrow evening.

SERVICES ON THE SABBATH.

9 o'clock A. M. Prayer meeting conducted by Rev. L. S. Griggs.

10½ o'clock A. M. Sermon by Rev. H. Loomis, Jr., of Wabashaw.

12¼ P. M. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Revs. A. Fuller and A. Morse. Deacons Stearns of Zumbrota and Bennett of St. Cloud distributed the elements.

3 o'clock P. M. Children's meeting, conducted by the Moderator, and addressed by Revs. Hardy, Creighton, Williams and Fuller, and Bro. Cheney.

7½ o'clock P. M. Sermon by Rev. Jas. W. Strong.

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH.

10½ A. M. Sermon by Rev. E. S. Williams.
7½ P. M. " " " L. S. Griggs.

AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

10½ A. M. Sermon by Rev. A. K. Fox.
7½ P. M. " " " C. C. Salter.

After the sermon by Bro. Strong, the committee on obituaries reported, desiring leave to report to Recording Secretary, for insertion in the minutes.

Granted.

The Corresponding Secretary made a partial report.

Rev. R. Hall, agent of the A. H. M. Society for Minnesota, addressed the Conference, with regard to H. M. work in the State.

The following resolution was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That we rejoice in the extension of our Home Missionary work in the new settlements and along the frontier, and the success that has attended the efforts of Rev. R. Hall, the efficient agent of the society, in his efforts to plant new churches, and supply them with pastors.

Voted, That a committee of three be appointed to report next year upon the following question, viz: How can our Home Missionary work be made more efficient?

The Moderator appointed Revs. Brown, Fuller and Seccombe.

The Moderator returned thanks to the citizens of St. Cloud for their kind hospitality, and expressing the fraternal wishes of Conference for the welfare of the church in this place.

The Moderator addressed the Conference in a few parting words.

On motion of Rev. H. Loomis, Jr., of Wabashaw, Conference adopted the following resolution, viz:

"*Resolved*, That the warm thanks of this Conference be presented to our Moderator, for the patient christian courtesy with which he has presided over our deliberations."

The minutes were read and approved.

A closing prayer was offered by Rev. C. C. Salter. The L. M. Doxology was sung. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Sherman Hall, and the Conference adjourned, to meet with the Congregational Church of Owatonna, on the second Thursday of Oct., 1868, at 7 o'clock P. M.

JAS. W. STRONG, Moderator.
J. F. DUDLEY, Rec. Sec.
L. S GRIGGS, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL SESSION.

DELEGATES TO OTHER RELIGIOUS BODIES.

General Association of California,.....R. Hall.
" " Connecticut.....C. C. Salter.
" " Illinois,.....C. Seccombe.
" " Indiana, ...L. C. Gilbert.
" " Iowa, ...A. Morse.
" " Kansas, ...W. B. Dada.
" " Massachusetts, ...A. K. Packard.
" " Michigan,.....B. A. Dean.
" " Nebraska,.....G. H. Miles.
" " New Hampshire,.....L. S. Griggs.
" " New York,.....A. D. Roe.
" " Oregon,.....A. K. Fox.
" Conference Maine,.....A. Fuller.
" " Missouri, ...H. Loomis, Jr.
" " Ohio, ...J. W. Strong.
" " Rhode Island, ...E. S. Williams.
" " Vermont, ...S. Hall.
" Convention Wisconsin,.....H. Willard.
Synod of Minnesota, ...N. H. Pierce.
" " St. Paul, ...L. J. White.
Baptist Convention of Minnesota, ...E. Brown.
Methodist Episcopal Conference of Minnesota,.....Wm. Leavitt.

On Printing and Finance—Dudley, Griggs and Cheney.

Treasurer, pro tem., of Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society—E. S. Williams.

Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe.

Corresponding Secretary, pro tem—A. Fuller.

On Home Missionary Work—Brown, Fuller, and Seccombe.

Committee to Visit Northfield College—Noyes, Morse, Fuller, Baldwin, Harris.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To receive and indorse Applications of Churches, in this State, for aid from the American Congregational Union, and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society—J. F. Dudley, of Winona, and R. Hall, of St. Paul.

To receive and indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to forward those indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State:

Central Association—C. C. Salter, Minneapolis, and A. K. Packard, Anoka;

Southern Association—J. F. Dudley, Winona, and C. Shedd, Mantorville.

[N. B.—The Churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

Corresponding Secretary—D. Burt, till October, 1868; A. Fuller *pro tem.*

Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe, till October, 1868.

Recording Secretary—J. F. Dudley, till October, 1868.

NAMES OF THE TRUSTEES OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

Northfield—C. M. Goodsell, H. Scriver, J. H. Spencer, M. W. Skinner.

St. Paul—Rev. R. Hall.

Zumbrota—Rev. C. Seccombe.

Minneapolis—A. T. Hale.

Cottage Grove—S. W. Furber.

Winona—Rev. J. F. Dudley,

Faribault—Rev. E. Gale, Rev. J. W. Strong.

Anoka—Rev. A. K. Packard.

West Eau Claire, Wis.—Rev. George Spaulding.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE.

ST. CLOUD, MINN., Oct. 11, 1867.

The Committee on Printing and Finance submit the following report:

Paid for printing 600 copies of Minutes	$112 80	
Paid for making copy of Minutes	3 00	
Paid for postage and stationery	5 64	
Paid bill of Statistical Secretary	1 51	
		$122 95
Balance from last year	$ 3 48	
Received from the Churches	94 79	
Received from sale of 115 copies of Minutes	23 00	$121 27
Deficiency		$ 1 68

Forty-four Churches have paid according to request of Conference. The others have not responded to the circulars sent out. Copies of the Minutes, one for every six members, were sent to all the churches that contributed toward defraying the expenses of printing. The account of the Committee containing all the items has been audited by H. P. Bennett, of St. Cloud, Auditor of the Conference.

The Committee recommend that the same plan for raising funds be adopted for the ensuing year as heretofore.

J. F. DUDLEY,
Chairman of Committee.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS AID SOCIETY.

Cash on hand invested at 10 per cent	$162 18
Deduct $20 paid Mrs. W. Bigelow	20 00
	$142 18
Annual interest	14 21
Contributed at St. Cloud	19 00
Advance Stock	100 00
	275 39

E. S WILLIAMS,
Treasurer *pro tem.*

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY PRO TEM.

In reviewing the interest of our Zion at the close of this Conference year we find abundant reason for special thanksgiving to the Great Master for the comfort and reward he has given us in our labors. The year has been one of quickening and growth to the Churches of our order in the State. For a classified statement of our progress and present strength, it is a pleasure to refer to the carefully prepared tables of our Statistical Secretary, from the result of whose labor many items of this report have been derived.

The spiritual condition of our Churches has been most prosperous during the year; with some there have been powerful revivals, almost wholly changing the condition of the communities where the work has been wrought, with many there has been present the gentle and refreshing influences of the Holy Spirit, resulting in great comfort and quickening to the people of God and in large accessions to their numbers.

Two Churches have more than doubled their membership during the year, and several others have added more than fifty per cent. to their numbers in the same time.

The growth of our Churches in material things has also been most cheering. Several have paid off heavy debts; five have repaired and enlarged their houses of worship; thirteen have built or are now building, and several are preparing to build; more than $10,700 has been subscribed to establish the College at Northfield, and regular benevolent contributions have been largely increased.

Among the important lessons of the year is the strong confirmation it affords us of the peculiar adaptation of our Church faith and polity to meet the wants of the people in this new and rising commonwealth.

We have seen our principles again tested beside the severer and more arbitrary forms of church government, and they have not been found wanting. Our Churches have been in peace and order under our discipline, and the working power of their members has been increasingly developed.

In view of these facts we have reason to be greatly encouraged, and to address ourselves with new zeal to the extension of our polity as one of the surest conservators of civil liberty; the most natural nurse and guardian of sound education, and as affording the truest and freest expression of Christian faith and practice.

Under such encouragement let us go to our places of labor with stronger faith, brighter hopes and quickened zeal, and give ourselves with new consecration to our work. Doing with our might what our hands find to do; working while it is day, knowing that the night cometh when no man can work.

A. FULLER,
Corresponding Secretary, *pro tem.*

REPORT OF AGENT OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

Had I known at the beginning of the year how hard the times would be before the meeting of another Conference, I should not probably have had courage to undertake the raising of a subscription of $10,000 among the infant Churches of Minnesota, for the founding of a College. Yet I am happy now to report that the Churches, notwithstanding the straitness of the times and the weakness of their infancy, have fully redeemed the pledge made in their name at the last Conference. There has been subscribed, within the bounds of the Conference (including some six Churches in Wisconsin,) the sum of $10,739.60; of which about $2,700.00 have already been paid.

One Church, in a farming community, subscribed over $1,000, at the same time that they were circulating a subscription to obtain the means of building themselves a house of worship. Another Church of very few male members, who were struggling hard, in mid-Winter, to put up a house of worship, and who naturally felt under the circumstances as though they could not subscribe a cent, made up a subscription of $250.00. One frontier county which had run so short of provisions before Spring, that supplies were actually sent in to prevent extreme suffering, was visited by your agent in September, for the reason that there was a Congregational Church there, and that his principle was to pass by no such Church. To his surprise, he not only found "Robin alive, and alive like to be," but talking confidently about the College, with no idea that they were not to have a hand in it. He met them on rustic seats in an open grove, for they had no church and no school house even to worship in; and there they responded to his appeal with a subscription of $100.50, while in the same place and at the same time a cash collection was taken up for two other objects. Time would fail me to speak of all the instances of noble devotion that were manifested. I must, however, allude to one other—a Church in Wisconsin—which, though in another State and from one to two hundred miles distant, yet being within the bounds of the Conference, subscribed over $300.00, and has paid every cent of its first installment.

CHARLES SECCOMBE,
Financial Agent of Northfield College.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE SABBATH.

In the great conflict of truth and virtue against error and vice that has now been waged, ever since the fall of man, it becomes necessary in each generation to re-assert the same doctrines, to re-demonstrate the same truths. Among those of the present time requiring re-assertion are those relating to the laws that, from the planting of the Anglo-Saxon colonies on this continent down through our whole national existence, have guarded the sanctity of the Christian Sabbath. The fact that formidable organizations, chiefly by citizens of foreign birth, have been formed to procure the repeal of such laws, boldly seeking to control the action of political parties, calls upon the friends of morality and religion, to awaken to a new zeal in behalf of Sabbath institutions and a setting forth anew before the people of the principles on which these laws are founded.

1st. We assert that they are not enacted with the design to interfere with the conscientious convictions of any class of our citizens. In most of the States by express provision, and in all by the tacit acquiescence of all Christian men, the Jew and the Sabbatarian, are protected in the enjoyment of their own day, and not compelled to observe another. Nor is any man compelled to attend any form of religious worship.

2d. Nor are they conceived in any narrow prejudices or sectarian bigotry, but in an enlarged and enlightened statesmanship. The Protestant Sabbath has ever been the conservator of morality, civilization and popular freedom. The friends of the Sabbath, both in Europe and America, have ever been the unfaltering advocates of popular liberty, while those who would trample the rights of man under foot have also set lightly by the Sabbath as a day of religious rest. That it is the acknowledged conservator of morality is evident enough in the fact that those who trade in immorality, whose pelf is gained by promoting drunkenness, licentiousness, gambling, and all the grosser vices, are loudest in their clamor for the repeal of all Sabbath laws. It is the conservator of civilization through the cultivation of the decencies of dress and demeanor, that attend the observance of set seasons of public worship; and of popular liberty in the protection it affords the poor man in his right to a day for rest, and the cherishing of home virtues and affections, secure from the exactions of heartless avarice.

The Sabbath is emphatically the poor man's day. For the law of the Sabbath steps in and holds the shield of protection between the laborer and the avaricious employer, and aids him in the assertion of his manhood and his rights. Take from him this protection alone and he sinks hopelessly into the condition of a peasant or a serf. On this point we challenge comparison of those portions of christendom where the Sabbath is sacredly observed and where it is not. But the enlightened statesman or jurist also under-

stands that a mere day for the suspension of labor is fearfully liable to perversion into a season of licentiousness, dissipation and crime, unless surrounded by legal safeguards. Hence, while they have protected the people in the rights of the Sabbath, they have also guarded its hours as sacred time, when not only worshipping assemblies should be protected in the quiet enjoyment of their privileges of worship, but the community should be shielded from the evils flowing from unrestricted license.

The issue that is being made by the enemies of the Sabbath is one that must be fearlessly met. That richest legacy left us by our fathers, cannot be bartered away. We then recommend that from the pulpits of our churches, through popular lectures, and by tracts, books and papers upon this subject, our ministers and church members shall endeavor to reach the whole people,—showing them that, not only in religious, but also in an economical and physical point of view, "The Sabbath was made for man." And we call upon all Christians and friends of good morals, to unite with us in the creation of such an enlightened public opinion as shall preserve to ourselves and our descendants this our priceless inheritance.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. *Resolved*, That the growing demand for an evangelical ministry in our State, and the recent foundation of Northfield College with reference to this demand, make it the imperative duty of our churches to direct the attention of their young men to the work of preaching the Gospel.

2. *Resolved*, That for the purpose of aiding these young men in their preparation for preaching the Gospel, as well as for increasing the interest of our churches in their behalf, we urge that the Western Education Society, be put on the calendar of objects, receiving their annual offering.

3. *Resolved*, That we have heard with great satisfaction of the large and christian work, accomplished among the Freedmen, by the American Missionary Association, and cordially commend the association to the confidence and cooperation of all our churches.

4. *Resolved*, That organized effort in behalf of Temperance Reform, especially for securing a prohibitory law, demands the earnest attention and co-operation of all christians.

5. *Resolved*, That the present aspect of affairs in our country, in view of the course of our President, and the result of some of our State elections, affords cause for serious apprehension, except as christians shall resort anew to the throne of grace, and patriots to the support of Congress and the country.

6. *Resolved*, That now, as in years past, our sympathies are with the American Tract Society at Boston, because of the *uncompromising* fidelity to truth evinced in its publications; that we highly appreciate the labor of its agent, Rev. Edward Brown, in this State the past year; and that we heartily commend him to the churches, and bespeak for him a cordial co-operation in his important work.

7. *Resolved*, That we hail with great satisfaction the advent of three of our churches to a condition of self-support during the past year; and that in view of the new, needy and important fields opening farther out upon the frontier, we recognize the obligation, as sacredly binding upon the older beneficiaries of the American Home Missionary Society, especially to transfor themselves from the category of beneficiaries to that of benefactors, at the earliest possible moment.

8. *Resolved*, That we commend to our churches the work of the American Sunday School Union, as represented by Bros. Lewis and Hatch.

OBITUARY.

From the Home Missionary, January, 1867.

Died, October 31st, 1866, of Consumption, in Mazeppa, Minn., after a severe illness of three months, Rev. WARREN BIGELOW, aged 44 years and 4 months. Mr. Bigelow was born in Chester, Vermont, June 29, 1822. At the age of twelve years he was hopefully converted, and soon after had his attention turned to the duty of preparing for the gospel ministry. Having indue time graduated at Middlebury College, and studied theology at Andover he was ordained November 18th, 1854, and came to Wisconsin under commission from the American Home Missionary Society, and commenced labor in the early part of the following December at Black River Falls, in Jackson County, a village noted at that time both for the generosity and rudeness of frontier lumbering life. His kind and generous feelings, under the control of strong religious convictions, soon gained for him the respect and confidence of those who came under his ministry.

In September, 1855, he organized a small Congregational Church, which was peculiarly the object of his warm christian care during the remaining years of his ministry in that place. For this little church he secured a neat and convenient house of worship by an industry and perseverence rarely equalled in one of such feeble health, and under similar outward circumstances. Much of the mechanical labor was performed by his own hands. After nearly eight years of patient and affectionate toil in this first field of labor, a change in church polity, of which I need not here speak, caused him to leave the people of his first love, as a minister, and to seek elsewhere the communion of christian hearts. He was soon called to take charge of a church in Minnesota, where, after four years of faithful labor, he passed away calmly and trustfully to his rest in Heaven. Being able to sing for himself, "I love thy kingdom, Lord," and to rest without fear on the provisions of divine grace, he was much in prayer for his church and people during the last days of his life—often repeating the words, "O, my dear people, my dear people," thus making their welfare the last and chief burden of his soul.

OBITUARY.

From the Home Missionary, May, 1867.

Died in Rochester, Minnesota, January 15th, 1867, of Heart disease, Rev. WILLIAM R. STEVENS, aged 54 years. Mr. Stevens was born in Worthington, Mass., May 15th, 1812. He made a profession of religion at nineteen years of age, and devoted himself to the gospel ministry, graduating at Williams College in 1841, and completing his theological studies at Lane Seminary in 1844. He preached at Logansport, Ind., two years, at Akron, Ohio, two years, and at Newton Falls, Ohio, five years, where he lost his first wife in 1851. At Thornton, Ind., he preached a year and a half, at River Falls, Wis., seven years, and at Rochester, Minn., four years. He leaves a wife and five children, two of whom were by the first marriage.

My acquaintance with Mr. Stevens commenced on his coming to River Falls in the autumn of 1855, since which time I have known him well. From that time, he has been a member of one or the other of our two ministerial Associations in Minnesota, and also of our State Conference of Congregational Churches; and has been universally regarded as one of the ablest and best men in our body. His seven years of labor at River Falls were attended with repeated seasons of religious interest, in which many souls were brought to Christ, and gathered into the church. The causes of Education, Temperance, and Anti-Slavery always found in him an earnest and efficient supporter; and River Falls must always owe much to his early labors and influence, for the high character it bears for intelligence, morality, and fidelity to the cause of liberty.

At Rochester, also, his labors were crowned with results of the greatest importance and promise for the welfare of that rapidly growing place. It was an unspeakable satisfaction to him to leave the church for which he had toiled in secure possession of a substantial and beautiful brick house of worship, and to see the work which he had begun so auspiciously, pass into the hands of a successor well qualified to maintain those vital principles of Christianity which were so dear to his own heart.

His own was a deep and rich religious experience, and out of it he was eminently qualified to preach to the edification of the most spiritual members in our churches. Under his ministrations, such were often made to feel that they were being fed with the richest and rarest of spiritual delicacies. Those truths which he had been able to present so effectively to the minds of others, sustained his own mind in the near approach of death. "Come, Jesus," was his last audible utterance. As was said by a speaker at his funeral, "we are all agreed in feeling that a good man, and one full of the Holy Ghost has been taken from us." We are indeed bereaved; we mourn and are sad at his loss. May the Lord send us many others of a kindred spirit to lay here, as he has done, the foundations of many generations!

ORDER OF EXERCISES FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION,

WHICH WILL BE HELD AT ST. CHARLES, COMMENCING JANUARY 21, 1868, AT SEVEN O'CLOCK P. M.

Sermon—FULLER.

Exegesis of Phil. 3: 11—14.—GRIGGS.

Plan of Sermon—LITTS.

Essay—Duty of all Christians to make a public profession of Religion.—SAWYER.

Essay—Best methods of promoting home evangelization by the Church.—WILLARD.

Essay—Distinction between true and false revivals.—BROWN.

Discussion—Are protracted meetings the best methods of promoting revivals of Religion?—MILES, SHEDD, FULLER, and J. N. WILLIAMS.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1867.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	Ministers.	Commenced Labor.	Condition Sept. 1, 1867. Members. Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Add'ns. Profession.	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Exc'mm'nic't'ns.	Letter.	Total.	Bapt. Adults.	Infants.	S. S. and Bible Class.	Subscriptions to North-field College.	Ben. Contributions.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58..	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66...	7	14	21	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	50	250 00	41 00	
Albert Lea	April 24, '59.	Unsupplied	.....	5	16	21	4	2	1	3	...	2	2	4	...	1	50	35 00	25 00	
Anoka	May 6, '55....	A. K. Packard	March 9, '60	19	41	60	14	...	5	5	3	...	...	3	...	...	70	102 50	.....	Building Church.
Austin	July 6, '57....	Alfred Morse	Dec. 1, '64....	21	30	51	2	3	9	12	1	...	5	6	1	4	60	178 00	37 21	Building Church.
Bristol	July 21, '67..	J. A. Jones	.....	3	4	7	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	4 00	.....	
Bristol, (Welsh)	April 27, '67.	J. A. Jones	.....	.....	.....	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	
Butternut V. (Welsh)		Unsupplied	.....	.....	.....	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	15 00	.....	
Cannon Falls	Aug. '56.....	E W. Merrill	Oct. '67.....	6	10	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	75	.....	10 00	Church Completed.
Chain Lake Center	May 27, '65...	John C. Strong	Feb. 20, '64..	10	10	20	3	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	100 50	18 00	
Claremont	April, '60.....	C. Shedd	April, '60.....	3	7	10	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	.....	69 00	3 00	3 add to Ch since Sep. 1.
Clearwater	April 20, '59..	W. B. Dada	Nov. 1, '62..	21	51	72	13	8	2	10	1	1	3	4	3	2	50	418 00	.....	
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, '58...	Unsupplied	.....	15	23	38	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	1008 60	.....	Building Church.
Elgin	April 10, '58	Palmer Litts	Nov. 1, '66....	14	18	32	...	3	6	9	...	...	3	3	...	1	Un.	76 00	.....	Building Church.
Excelsior&Chanhas'n	July 17, '58..	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55..	38	51	89	6	4	5	9	2	...	1	3	2	4	100	123 00	82 00	
Faribault 1st Ch	Dec. 20, '55..	E. Gale	April 1, '66..	43	67	110	20	16	18	34	1	...	4	5	5	6	100	.....	222 85	
Faribault, Plymouth	Jan. 26, '66 .	James W. Strong	Jan., 66.....	37	60	97	2	20	18	38	1	1	8	10	11	11	130	772 00	225 19	Building Church.
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57...	Unsupplied	.....	8	14	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	73 00	.....	No report; figures
Guilford	April, '60.....	A. Morse	Dec. 1, '64....	4	6	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	.....	3 85	[same as last year.
Hamilton	June 23, '60..	Unsupplied	.....	9	12	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	105 00	.....	No report; figures
Hammond, Wis.	July 6, '58....	J. W. Miller	May 1, '65....	15	21	36	4	4	2	6	1	...	1	2	7		38	25 00	30 00	[same as last year.
Hebron	Sept. 10, '64..	Unsupplied	.....	6	8	14	...	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	77 00	100 00	Union S. S.
High Forest	June 21, '60..	Unsupplied	.....	8	12	20	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	51	97 00	.....	[same as last year.
Hudson, Wis.	Aug. 6, '57....	D. W. Rogan	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	50 00	.....	No report; figures
Lake City	Aug. '56.....	Unsupplied	.....	36	50	86	6	7	8	15	1	1	3	5	3	2	125	150 00	100 00	
Lakeland	May 6, '58....	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66....	7	13	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	30	75 00	18 00	
Lansing	July 19, '67..	P. Canfield	Oct., '67.....	6	11	17	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	88 00	.....	
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57..	G. Bent	March, '61...	7	9	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	No report; figures
Lewiston	Feb. 16, '59...	Unsupplied	.....	5	6	11	...	...	4	4	...	...	2	2	...	...	20	152 00	12 00	[same as last year.
Malone, Wis.	Aug. 5, '60...	Unsupplied	.....	12	15	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	No rep't.; figures same.

Mantorville	March, '58	L. J. Sawyer	1866	8	17	25	...	...	2	2	...	...	5	5	...	1	50	87 00	50 00	
Marine	Feb. 8, '58	Unsupplied		2	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	45 00	.....	No rep't, same as last yr
Mazeppa	May 19, '60	Unsupplied		7	23	30	6	9	2	11	...	...	...	...	3	3	80	.....	33 00	
Medford	Oct. 25, '56	Unsupplied		17	26	43	7	1	8	9	...	...	...	...	...	1	70	89 00	.....	
Minneapolis, Plym'th	April 28, '57	C. C. Salter	Oct. 26, '62	101	147	248	19	17	32	49	3	...	13	16	7	4	188	1165 00	545 23	Branch S. S. 50 memb.
Monticello	March 8, '56	B. A. Dean	Aug. 1, '67	12	20	32	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	75	58 00	30 00	
Northfield	Aug. 30, '56	E. S. Williams	March 26, '64	63	99	162	8	13	8	21	1	...	4	5	6	2	100	21,029	.....	Church enlarged.
Orono	May 11, '61	Unsupplied		3	5	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	23 00	.....	Somewhat scattered.
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57	L. S. Griggs	Aug. 1, '66	21	42	63	2	14	6	20	...	...	9	9	7	1	100	265 00	70 00	Building a house.
Painsville	July 29, '66	S. D. Trembly	July, '66	6	3	9	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	Un	.....	.....	
Plainview	Oct. 7, '63	H. Willard	Sept. 1, '63	14	29	43	9	4	8	12	...	...	5	5	3	...	60	150 00	47 00	
Prairieville East	May 18, '60	L. C. Gilbert	March, '66	15	12	27	...	...	...	...	2	1	10	13	...	3	60	183 00	29 65	
Prescott, Wis	Feb. 15, '52	M. M. Martin	Nov. 1, '65	35	31	67	5	...	5	8	1	...	5	6	...	...	75	73 00	70 00	Church repaired.
Princeton	July, '56	A. V. House	April 1, '67	7	13	20	3	4	3	7	1	...	...	1	...	1	.....	126 33	5 00	
Quincy	May, '63	N. H. Pierce	Dec. 1, '66	8	17	25	1	8	5	13	1	...	5	6	4	...	50	126 00	35 00	
Richmond, Wis	1864	W. W. Norton	Oct. '67	4	11	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Un.	.....	.....	Building Church.
River Falls, Wis	Feb. 3, '55	Wm. Gill	Nov. 1, '62	28	72	100	12	4	4	8	2	...	1	3	3	1	150	92 00	125 00	Preparing to build.
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58	A. Fuller	Nov. 18, '66	37	56	93	7	10	16	26	2	...	6	8	8	...	130	604 00	98 16	Raised in y'r near 5,000.
Rushford	March 12, '60	W. W. Snell	May 18, '55	9	17	26	...	1	8	9	...	...	...	...	...	3	60	90 00	21 40	
Saratoga	July 25, '56	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66	20	27	47	...	27	5	32	...	...	2	2	13	...	75	58 00	.....	
Sauk Center	Jan. 20, '67	A. K. Fox	Aug. 12, '66	7	10	17	...	7	10	17	...	...	...	...	3	...	50	102 00	1 25	
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 28, '55	S. Hall	1854	5	7	12	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	25	103 00	12 00	
Somerset	Nov. 18, '66	Unsupplied		10	7	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	35 00	.....	
Spring Valley	May 24, '56	V. M. Harvly	July 6, '67	26	25	51	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	Un.	51 00	8 00	Building Church.
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, '51	J. Clisbee	Oct., '67	23	43	66	10	2	10	12	1	...	1	...	1	...	70	444 00	61 90	
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '59	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66	21	28	49	...	25	7	32	...	...	6	6	17	1	100	62 00	100 00	Repairing Church.
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64	G. I. Wood	Nov., '67	7	4	11	3	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	130 00	.....	Church built.
St. Paul	June 17, '58	L. J. White	Nov. '66	28	53	81	19	23	7	30	1	...	11	13	12	1	100	231 00	.....	
Sterling	Aug. '57	N. A. Hunt	March 1, '64	22	23	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	123 00	.....	No rep't, same as last yr
Vernon Center	Oct. 23, '64	N. A. Hunt	Feb., 64	3	4	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	36 00	.....	No rep't, same as last yr
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57	H. Loomis, Jr	Oct 1, '67	25	35	60	9	3	3	6	2	...	2	4	...	...	112	201 00	.....	
Warren	June 10, '63	Unsupplied		7	6	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	No rep't, same as last yr
Warren, Wis	Oct. 3, '63	Unsupplied		4	8	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	No rep't, same as last yr
Wasioja	June, '58	C. Shedd	June, '58	7	15	22	4	...	3	3	...	...	2	2	...	1	40	20 00	27 00	
West EauClaire, Wis	Dec., '56	Geo. Spaulding	April, '65	25	49	74	9	4	5	9	1	...	3	4	4	4	120	311 00	196 00	
Winnebago City	May 28, '59	J. B. Ladd	Nov., '67	26	14	40	7	...	5	5	...	...	3	3	...	1	Un.	45 00	.....	
Winona	Dec. 10, '54	J. F. Dudley	Sept. 1, '66	60	110	170	20	16	13	29	...	...	6	6	8	4	250	654 00	275 00	
York, (Dutch,)	Oct. 1, '65	H. M. H. Stroes	Sept. 1, '65	12	10	22	..	...	1	1	...	...	4	4	...	5	25	.....	3 85	
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	C. Seccombe	June 1, '67	31	45	76	8	23	8	31	...	...	2	2	...	...	.....	321 00	120 00	

ORGANIZED SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 1867.

Grove Lake	Sept. 8, '67	A. K. Fox	Aug. 12'66	5	7	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	95 00	6 00	
Minneapolis, Vine st.	Oct. 14, '67	Wm Leavitt	May 19, '67	8	12	20	...	1	19	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	.....	.....	
Woodland Mills	July 7, '67	J. B Ladd	Nov, '67	7	6	13	...	9	4	13	...	...	...	...	3	...	55	.....	.....	

SUMMARY.—Whole number of Churches, 71; of which 8 are in Wisconsin. Whole membership, 3,925—1,150 males; 1,775 females; non-residents 256. Whole number of additions, 626; to-wit: On prof. 302, by letter 328. Admit baptisms, 134; infant baptisms, 75. S. S. and Bible class scholars, 3,412. Benevolent contributions, exclusive of the College, $1,799.54. The subscription to Northfield College, within the bounds of Conference and outside of Northfield, amount to $10,799.60. The subscription in and about Northfield amount to $21,029, making a sum total of $31,799.60. This includes a collection of $9 at Kasota, $15 at Mankato, $30 at Fairmont, $45 at Hasting, $100 at Red Wing, $30 at Maple Grove and $9 at Minneota, not reported above.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1867.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation	P. O. Address.	Association.
Andrews, D.	Jan. 29, '40	Without charge.	Winona	Southern Minnesota.
Barnes, J. B.	1838	" "	Cannon Falls	Central "
Brown, Edward	Jan. 13, '53	Agent A. T. S.	Rochester	Southern "
Burt, David	Nov. 4, '51	Fr'dm'n'sBureau	Nashville, Tenn.	Southern "
Canfield, Philo	Feb. 5, '47	Acting Pastor	Lansing	Southern Minnesota.
Clark, Orlando	May, '65	Without charge.	St. Anthony	Central Association.
Clisbee, Jay		Acting Pastor	St. Anthony	
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56	Pastor	Clearwater	Central Minnesota.
Deau, B. A	July 20, '66	Acting Pastor	Monticello	" "
Dudley, J F	Dec. 29, '64	" "	Winona	" "
Fox, A. K	Oct. 25, '59	" "	Sauk Center	" "
Fuller, A.	Oct. 2, '62	Pastor	Rochester	Southern "
Gale, Edmund	Dec. 24, '56	Acting Pastor	Faribault	Central "
Galpin, Charles	Sept., '44	Without charge	Excelsior	" "
Gilbert, L. C.	July 16, '40	Acting Pastor	East Prairieville	" "
Gill, Wm.	May 26, '63	Pastor	River Falls, Wis	" "
Griggs, L. S.	June 23, '64	Acting Pastor	Owatonna	Southern "
Hall, E.	Aug. 8, '50	Agent A. H M. S.	St. Paul	Central "
Hall, S	June, '31	Acting Pastor	Sauk Rapids	" "
House, A. V	Aug. 26, '60	" "	Princeton	Council Bluff, Iowa.
Hardy V. M.	Licentiate	" "	Spring Valley	Southern Minnesota.
Hart, E. J		" "	Cottage Grove	
Haviland, B. F.	Dec. 21, '59	" "	Alexandria	Central Minnesota.
Hunt, N. A.	1846	" "	Sterling	Southern "
Ladd, J. B.	Licentiate	" "	Judson	
Loomis, H., Jr.	June 1, '59	" "	Wabashaw	Hartford Union, Ct.
Litts, Palmer	Jan. 24, '65	" "	Elgin	Southern Minnesota.
Leavitt, Wm	Jan. 27, '64	" "	Minneapolis	Central "
Martin, M M.	Aug. 24, '64	" "	Prescott, Wis.	" "
Merrill, E W	April 5, '64	" "	Cannon Falls	" "
Miles, G H.	1860	" "	St. Charles	Southern "
Miller, J. W.	May 26, '63	" "	Hammond, Wis.	Central "
Morse, Alfred	June 7, '47	" "	Austin	Southern "
Norton, W. W	1852	" "	New Richmond, Wis.	Cons.of Western N.Y.
Packard, A. K.	Dec. 16, '51	Pastor	Anoka	Central Minnesota.
Pierce, N. H.	1861	Acting Pastor	St. Charles	Cons.of Western N.Y.
Roe, A. D.	Feb. 5, '67	" "	Afton	Central Minnesota.
Rogan, D H.		" "	Hudson, Wis.	
Salter, C. C.	April 20, '59	Pastor	Minneapolis	Central Minnesota.
Sawyer, L. J		Acting Pastor	Mantorville	
Seccombe, Charles	Aug. 8, '50	" "	Zumbrota	Central Minnesota.
Shedd, Charles	March, '42	" "	Wasioja	Southern "
Sheldon, C. B.	Oct 9, '51	Pastor Elect	Excelsior	Central "
Snell, W W.	Oct. 16, '59	Acting Pastor	Rushford	Southern "
Spaulding, Geo	May 10, '48	" "	West Eau Claire, Wis.	Central "
Stroes H. M. H.	July 3, '61	" "	Forestville	Southern "
Strong, James W.	Sept 23, '62	Pastor	Faribault	Central "
Strong, John C	Dec. 16, '46	Acting Pastor	Chain Lake Center	Southern "
Teele, Edwin	Oct 18, '52	Without charge.	Bristol Center	" "
Twichell, Royal	Jan 12, '42	" "	Anoka	Central "
White, L J.		Acting Pastor	St. Paul	
Willard, Henry	Oct. 20, '58	" "	Plainview	Southern Minnesota.
Williams, E. S.	June 10, '64	Pastor	Northfield	Central "
Williams J. N.	July, '47	Without charge	Lake City	" "
Wood, G. I.		Acting Pastor	St. Cloud	

SUMMARY.

Pastors	7
Acting Pastors	37
Agent of A. H. M. S.	1
Agent of American Tract Society	1
Others	9
Total	55

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.			Place of Meeting	Moderator.	Recording Secretary.	Corresponding Secretary.	Statistical Secretary.	Preacher and Text.
October 24,		1856.	St. Anthony.....	Rev S Hall.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev C Seccombe...		Rev W R Stevens.....John 1:4
Annual Meeting on Second Thursday of October each year.	1	1857	Prescott, Wis....	Rev L Armsby.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev C Seccombe...		Rev C B Sheldon.. ...2 Cor 4:7
	2	1858	Faribault.....	Rev D Andrews.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev C Seccombe...	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev R Hall .....Rev 11:15
	3	1859	Winona.....	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev L Armsby.....Rev 3:18
	4	1860	St Paul.....	Rev D Burt.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev D Andrews.....Is 58:10, 11
	5	1861	Anoka	Rev O A Thomas.....	Rev C B Sheldon.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev A S Fiske .....Phil 4:6
	6	1862	Northfield	Rev C Shedd.....	Rev A K Packard.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev C Shedd.....2 Thes 2:13
	7	1863	Lake City.....	Rev W R Stevens.....	Rev A K Packard.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev J W Miller.....Jn 17:20,21
	8	1864	Rochester.....	Bro C M Goodsell.....	Rev A K Packard.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev O Seccombe.....Prov 24:10
	9	1865	Minneapolis.....	Bro R G Lincoln.....	Rev J F Dudley.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.	Rev D Burt.....Eph 2:1
	10	1866	Faribault.....	Bro W J Copp.....	Rev J F Dudley.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev A B Smith.....Matt 23:8
	11	1867	St. Cloud.....	Rev J W Strong	Rev J F Dudley.....	Rev D Burt	Rev C Seccombe.....	Rev E J Hart.....Luke 19:11-27

HISTORICAL SUMMARY CONTINUED.

Annual Meeting on the Second Thursday of October of each Year.	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removals.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommunicated.			Adult.	Infant.		
1856	8	9											
1857	16	16											
1858	41	27	137.....	267.....	5.....	40.....	0.....	1087.....	71.....	42.....	41.....	1116.....	$ 966 58
1859	51	36	179.....	233.....	18.....	66.....	1.....	1446.....	99.....	75.....	95.....	1841.....	725 31
1860	63	43	185.....	201.....	19.....	140.....	3.....	1630.....	180.....	72.....	90.....	1868.....	821 90
1861	64	46	90.....	122.....	12.....	91.....	12.....	1539.....	169.....	26.....	66.....	1841.....	1108 92
1862	61	41	87.....	105.....	16.....	48.....	7.....	1514.....	255.....	16.....	60.....	1848.....	730 36
1863	59	45	118.....	125.....	28.....	70.....	2.....	1877.....	297.....	85.....	63.....	1244.....	1029 14
1864	68	47	255.....	498.....	33.....	109.....	3.....	2140.....	314.....	118.....	85.....	2787.....	2644 66
1865	64	47	185.....	169.....	28.....	107.....	7.....	2465.....	324.....	77.....	71.....	2628.....	3062 56
1866	66	52	156.....	236.....	33.....	169.....	5.....	2569.....	281.....	68.....	71.....	2880.....	3638 26
1867	71	55	300.....	333.....	31.....	174.....	6.....	2925.....	255.....	134.....	75.....	3419.....	2798 54

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws; each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained Ministers, who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the Records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. This Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at seven o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual Meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10, At each annual meeting of the Conference, a visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Northfield College, and report at the next meeting.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that there is one God, the sole Creator, Preserver, and moral Governor of the Universe; a Spiritual Being of Infinite Wisdom, Power, Justice, Goodness and Truth; self existent, independent and unchangable.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God; that they contain a complete and harmonious system of Divine Truth, and are our only perfect rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

ART. 3. We believe that, according to the Scriptures, the mode of the Divine existence is such as lays a foundation for a three-fold distinction of Persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and that these three are one God, the same in essence, and in all Divine Attributes equal.

ART. 4. We believe that one Supreme God has made all things for Himself; that known unto Him were all His works from the beginning, and that He has created and governs all things according to the holy and unchanging counsel of His own will, yet in such a manner as that man is a free agent, and accountable for all his actions.

ART. 5. We believe that the Divine Law, and the priciples of the Divine Government, are perfectly holy, just, and good.

ART. 6. We believe that the first parents of the human race were created holy, and fell from their original state, by voluntarily transgressing the Divine command, in the article of forbidden fruit.

ART. 7. We believe that, in consequence of their apostacy, all their posterity are born with hearts depraved and at enmity with God, so that, if left to themselves, they will invariably commit sin, and expose themselves to His wrath forever.

ART. 8. We believe that Christ, the Son of God, is the only Redeemer of sinners; that He took our nature upon Him, and by His sufferings and death made a sufficient atonement for the sins of all men; so that God can now be just, and yet the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

ART. 9. We believe that, although the invitations of the Gospel are such that whosoever will, may come and take of the waters of life freely, yet the depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father, by the special and efficacious influences of His Spirit, draw him.

ART. 10. We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen, in Christ, before the world began; and that they are saved not by works of righteousness which they have done, but according to the mercy of God, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

ART. 11. We believe that for those who exercise true faith in Christ, there is no condemnation, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead; that all mankind must one day stand before the Judgment-Seat of Christ, to receive sentence of just and final retribution according to their respective works; and that from the Judgment-Seat the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

ART. 13. We believe that the Sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that believers of regular church standing only can consistently partake of the Holy Supper; and that visible believers, with their households only, can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of Baptism.

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1868

MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT AUSTIN, OCTOBER 15–18, 1868.

ST. PAUL:
DISPATCH PRINTING CO.
1868.

NOTICES.

The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the General Congregational Conferance of Minnesota, will be held at Owatonna, commencing at 7 o'clock, Thursday evening, October 14th, 1869. Opening sermon by Rev. E. Gale of Faribault; alternate, Rev. G. I. Wood, of St. Cloud.

The Northern Association will meet at Monticello, on the third Monday (18th) of January.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

Essay on Home Evangelization—J. G. D. Stearns.
Review of Bushnell's Vicarious Sacrifice—Packard.
Sermons—Wood and Campbell.
Plans of Sermons—Leavitt and Haviland.
Exegesis of 1 Pet. 3: 19, 20—Pike.
Essay on Demonology—Dean.

The Central Association will meet with the Church at Afton, on the first Tuesday evening of June, 1869.

Preacher,.....Williams.
Substitute,.....Gill.
Essay,.....Hall.
Essay on Inspiration,.....Hart.
Review of Hodge on Atonement,.....Rogan.
Exegesis of 1 Cor. 15: 29,.....White.
Plans of Sermons,.....Martin & Gill.
Discussion on Female Suffrage,—

Affirmative, { Roe, White. Negative, { Hall, Norton.

Sermon for Criticism,.....Sloan.
Reading of Chapter and Hymn for Criticism.....Strong.

The Southern Association will meet at Mantorville on the fourth Tuesday evening of January, 1869.

Topic for discussion:—

Distinction between true and false revivals.
Home Evangelization.
Duty of immediate individual labor for the salvation of souls.
Obstacles to the prosperity of the churches.

Churches are requested to send delegates.

The Theological and Literary Circle of Southern Minnesota will meet at Wascca on the fourth Tuesday (22d) of December.

MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE,

OF MINNESOTA.

AUSTIN, OCTOBER 15, 1868.

The Church at Owatonna not being prepared to accommodate the Conference, on account of the non-completion of their House of Worship, an invitation to meet with the church at Austin was accepted, and Conference convened at that place, in the new House of Worship, on Thursday evening, October 15, at 7 o'clock—one week later than the time designated in the Constitution, the change having been made for this year, to avoid meeting at the same time with the Wisconsin Convention.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. A. Fuller, of Rochester. Text—Job 40 : 3, 4, and 42 : 5, 6. Subject—Repentance, a true sorrow for all unholy states and affections of the heart.

After the sermon, G. W. Prescott, State Superintendent of Sabbath Schools, was introduced, and made brief remarks, calling for the co-operation of our churches in his new and important work.

Conference was then called to order by Rev. J. F. Dudley, of Winona, Recording Secretary.

Voted, To defer organization till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, OCT. 16, 6½ o'clock, A. M.

Prayer meeting conducted by Rev. A. H. Clapp, D. D., of New York.

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9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary, and prayer was offered by Rev. E. Gale.

Rev. Wm. Leavitt, of Minneapolis, was chosen Scribe.

The churches were then called. The roll, as finally made up, was as follows, viz:

Churches Represented.	Pastors and Ministers in charge.	Delegates.
Afton	A. D. Roe	Mrs. Olive K. Haskell.
Austin	Alfred Morse	Jas. N. Cook.
Cannon Falls		Rev. J. R. Barnes.
Clearwater	J. G. D. Stearns	
Cottage Grove	E. J. Hart	S. W. Furber.
Elgin	Palmer Litts	Nelson Huntington.
Excelsior		Rev. C. Galpin.
Faribault	E. Gale	R. A. Mott.
Faribault, Plymouth	E. M. Williams	J. L. Noyes.
Guilford	A. Morse	
Hamilton		T. P. Mead.
High Forest		N. R. Lyon.
Lake City	W. B. Dada	
Lakeland	A. D. Roe	
Lansing	Edwin Booth	D. M. Evans.
Medford	E. Brown	N. Williamson.
Minneapolis, Plymouth		W. Cheney.
Minneapolis, Vine St	Wm. Leavitt	
Monticello	B. A. Dean	
Nevada		J. Rose.
Northfield	E. S. Williams	Myron W. Skinner.
Owatonna	L. S. Griggs	Francis Thom.
Plainview	H. Willard	
Rochester	A. Fuller	
Saratoga	Geo. H. Miles	
Somerset		Joel Gould.
Spring Valley		W. L. Kellogg.
St. Anthony	G. Campbell	S. F. Rankin.
St. Charles	Geo. H. Miles	
St. Cloud	Geo. I. Wood	
St. Paul		Rev. R. Hall.
Waseca	E. H. Alden	
Winona	J. F. Dudley	
Zumbrota	J. S. Coggswell	I. C. Stearns.
Prof. C. Seccombe, of Northfield College.		

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. D. P. Noyes, Sec'y of Massachusetts Home Evangelization Society.
Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., Secretary of American Congregational Union.
Rev. A. H. Clapp, D. D., Secretary of American Home Missionary Society,
Rev. Ozias Littlefield of Iowa.
Rev. A. J. Nelson, delegate (by proxy) from M. E. Conference.
Rev. Ephraim Adams, delegate from the General Association of Iowa.
Rev. H. I. Parker, delegate from Minnesota State Baptist Convention.
Rev. Mr. Armstrong, of General Association of New York.
Rev. H. A. Mayhew, of O. S. Presbyterian Body.

Bro. S. W. Furber, of Cottage Grove, was chosen Moderator

The Moderator was instructed to appoint committees, as required by the Second By-Law. Revs. A. Fuller, J. F. Dudley and A. K. Packard were appointed a committee to assist in the appointment of the same.

The Constitution and By-Laws were read by the Recording Secretary.

The Committee of Arrangements recommended, through Rev. A. Morse, Chairman:

That there be a prayer meeting every morning of the session, at 6½ o'clock.

That Conference meet at 9, 2 and 7 o'clock; and adjourn at 12 and 5 o'clock.

That from 9 to 9½ A. M. be given to devotional exercises.

That the following order of exercises be observed, viz:

Sermon on Home Evangelization by Rev. E. Brown. Address by Rev. Mr. Noyes, and general discussion of the subject.

Reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

" " from " "

Report of Committee on Finance and Printing.

Report of Committee to visit Northfield College.

Report of Treasurer of Widows and Orphans' Aid Society.

Report of Statistical Secretary.

Reports from Churches.

EVENING—Addresses from Representatives of Benevolent Societies.

Report adopted.

After a season of devotional exercises, led by Rev. L. S.

Griggs, the sermon by Rev. E. Brown, was preached. Text—Matt. 28 : 19, 20, and Mark 16 : 15. Topic—Capabilities of the Congregational Churches of America for the fulfillment of the great commission.

Rev. Mr. Noyes followed, speaking upon the importance of Christian intercourse in its relation to Home Evangelization, recommending Bible-classes, neighborhood prayer-meetings, fellowship meetings, &c.

Voted, That we take up the subject of Home Evangelization at the opening of the afternoon session.

The following Committees were reported, viz:

On Place and Preacher for the next meeting,—Revs. L. S. Griggs and W. B. Dada, and Bro. M. W. Skinner.

On Correspondence with other Religious Bodies,—Revs. C. Seccombe and R. Hall, and Bro. R. A. Mott.

On Finance and Printing,—Rev. L. S. Griggs, and Bros. W. Cheney and J. G. Nind.

On Resolutions,—Revs. E. Gale, E. J. Hart, and Dea. I. C. Stearns.

Voted, That a committee be appointed to receive applications of churches desiring to be admitted to Conference.

The Moderator appointed Revs. Hall, Wood, Fuller, and Dea. Jas. N. Cook.

Voted, That the committee just appointed inquire into the case of the church at Albert Lea, and report.

Adjourned.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Conference called to order by the Moderator. After singing, prayer was offered by Rev. E. Gale.

Rev. E. S. Williams, Treasurer *pro tem.* of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society reported.

Report accepted and adopted, and Bro. Williams elected Treasurer of the Society.

(See Appendix.)

The Committee on Home Missionary Work, appointed last year, reported through Rev. E. Brown.

Report adopted.

The subject of Home Evangelization was taken up and discussed.

Revs. Brown and Willard, and Bros. Noyes and Stearns were appointed a committee to digest and prepare a plan for more efficient Home Evangelization, and report at this meeting.

Of the Delegates to other Religious Bodies, several reported that they had communicated by letter. Rev. H. Willard had met the General Convention of Wisconsin. Rev. J. W. Strong was present at the meetings of the General Associations of New Hampshire and Nebraska. Rev. E. Brown visited the Baptist Convention, and Rev. Wm. Leavitt the M. E. Conference, of Minnesota.

The following Delegates were presented, and extended the greetings of their respective bodies, viz:

Rev. H. I. Parker, from the Minnesota Baptist Convention;
" Ephraim Adams, " General Association of Iowa;
" J. S. Coggswell, " General Conference of Maine.

Letters were read from the General Conference of Ohio, the General Association of California, and the General Convention of Wisconsin.

Adjourned.

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7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. E. Adams, of Iowa. The work of the A. H. M. Society was presented by Revs. R. Hall and A. H. Clapp, D. D. Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., spoke in behalf of the Am. Cong. Union. The Secretaries gave warm assurance of the interest felt by their Societies in this State, and of their disposition to do all that can be done consistently with the means placed at their disposal, and the demands made upon them from other fields. Rev. Mr. Noyes also addressed the meeting.

An invitation was received to attend a social gathering at Dr. J. N. Wheat's on Saturday evening, at 8 o'clock. Voted to accept it.

Northfield College matters were made the special order for tomorrow at 9 A. M.

Voted, That Rev. R. Hall be requested to prepare an obituary of the late Rev. S. D. Trembly, of Paynesville.

SATURDAY, 6½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer-meeting, led by Rev. E. Brown.

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9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference called to order by the Moderator, and after a season of devotion, Rev. J. S. Coggswell in the chair, Rev. A. J. Nelson, of the M. E. Conference, read a communication from Rev. Dr. Brooks, of St. Paul, the appointed delegate from that body. Mr. Nelson appeared in Dr. Brooks' place, and made a spirited address.

The Committee on Finance and Printing reported through Rev. J. F. Dudley, chairman.

Report accepted and adopted.

(See Appendix.)

Voted, That the churches be requested to pay at the rate of six cents per member, to defray the expense of printing the minutes.

Voted, That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the American Tract Society at Boston, for the recent donation of tracts.

The Committee to visit Northfield College reported through Prof. J. L. Noyes, chairman. Report accepted.

(See Appendix.)

Prof. Noyes spoke of the State Institution for Deaf, Dumb and Blind, requesting any who know such children to communicate with him.

Rev. R. Hall, President of the Board of Trustees, spoke earnestly and hopefully in behalf of the College, followed by the Moderator. Prof. Seccombe spoke of the necessity of labor for the College, on our part, and contributions to its treasury. Rev. Dr. Palmer endorsed Prof. Seccombe's remarks on the importance

of putting the College on a firm financial basis, as a means of securing for it Eastern benefactions.

Voted, That the committee on resolutions be instructed to present a resolution, recommending the Executive Committee of the College to renew their solicitations to the churches at some time during the Conference year.

Voted, That Rev. B. A. Dean be appointed a committee to solicit contributions of books for the College Library.

The committee on Home Evangelization reported, through Rev. E. Brown, chairman. Report accepted and adopted.

(See Appendix.)

Voted, That the committee on nominations report a Secretary of Home Evangelization, also a committee to visit Northfield College.

The Statistical Secretary, Rev. C. Seccombe, reported. Report accepted.

The committee on reception of churches, through Rev. R. Hall, chairman, recommended that the churches at Waseca, Smithfield, Beaver and Nevada, be received as members of the Conference. Accepted and adopted.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Conference called to order, and Rev. G. Campbell, of Saint Anthony, led in prayer.

The committee on Place and Preacher for next meeting, reported as follows, viz:

Next Place of Meeting—Owatonna.
Preacher—Rev. E. Gale.
Alternate—Rev. G. I. Wood.

Report accepted and adopted.

The following officers were then elected, for the term of three years, viz:

Corresponding Secretary—Rev. A. Fuller.
Recording " Rev. L. S. Griggs.
Statistical " Rev. C. Seccombe.

The committee on nominations reported as follows, viz:

Secretary of Home Evangelization—Rev. H. Willard.

Committee to visit Northfield College—Dea. S. S. Taylor of St. Paul, Prof. Purmort of St. Charles, Revs. J. G. D. Stearns of Clearwater, L. S. Griggs of Owatonna, and E. J. Hart of Cottage Grove.

Committee of Arrangements—Revs. L. S. Griggs of Owatonna, E. H. Alden of Waseca, and J. W. Strong of Faribault.

Report accepted and adopted.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.:

Treasurer—Dea. A. N. Stoughton.
Auditor—R. A. Mott.

The committees on correspondence with other Religious Bodies, and Resolutions, reported. Reports accepted and adopted.

(See Appendix.)

The following report on the case of the church at Albert Lea was presented, accepted and adopted:

Resolved, That, in view of the circumstances under which the Congregational church of Albert Lea has been extinguished, and an O. S. Presbyterian church formed in its place, without explanation or apology on the part of our O. S. brethren, we consider it a breach of that Christian courtesy and fraternal regard, which ought to govern the different Christian denominations in their work of church extension, especially in view of the recent attempt, on the part of the O. S. Presbytery of Southern Minnesota to forestall all such aggressions, by negotiations with the Congregational Association of Southern Minnesota.

Resolved, That the Scribe communicate this resolution to the O. S. Presbytery of Southern Minnesota, and to Rev. Dr. Paxton of New York.

The committee of arrangements announced the following services for to-morrow, viz:

AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. W. B. Dada.
Evening Sermon—Rev. Palmer Litts.

AT THE M. E. CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. E. S. Williams.
Evening Sermon—Rev. A. K. Packard.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. G. Campbell.
Evening Sermon—Rev. G. I. Wood.

Services at the Congregational church, as reported in the following minutes.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18, 6½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer meeting, led by Rev. E. H. ALDEN.

9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Missionary prayer meeting, Rev. W. B. Dada in the chair.

Interesting and touching reminiscences of missionary and frontier life were given. Rev. Dr. Clapp gave comforting assurances of the warm interest felt, and earnest prayers offered by Christians in the East, for those engaged in Home Missionary work. The meeting closed with singing—

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

---

10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The new and beautiful church in which the Conference met, was dedicated to the worship of God.

Anthem, "How lovely is Zion."

Invocation, Rev. A. Morse.

Anthem, "How beautiful are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts."

Reading Scriptures, and Prayer, Rev. R. Hall.

Singing—

"Arise, O King of grace, arise."

Short sketch of the history of the building of the house, Rev. A. Morse.

Sermon by Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., including the prayer of dedication; Text, Matt. 22: 42.

A copy of the Bible for the pulpit was presented by Mrs. J. N. Wheat, and friends in Minneapolis, through Rev. C. Seccombe, as a tribute to the memory of Rev. Stephen Cook, first pastor of the church. It was received by Deacon J. N. Cook in behalf of the church.

The following hymn, written by Mrs. Esther M. Morse for this occasion, was then sung:

When, O Lord, Thine ancient Israel,
Reared a temple to thy name,
Thou a token didst vouchsafe them,
In the altar's kindling flame.

On Mount Zion's hallowed summit,
Rose the consecrating vows;
Then the fire came down from Heaven,
And Thy glory filled the house.

We, to-day, with glad thanksgiving,
Dedicate this house to Thee;
Thou who once didst dwell on Zion,
Let us here thy presence see.
By thy truth's convincing power,
By thy spirit's mighty grace,
Kindle in each heart an altar,
Take possession of the place!

Here accept our humble offering;
Here regard our earnest cry;
Here to sinners lost and helpless,
Bring Thy great salvation nigh.
By thy word in wisdom spoken,
Here may light and peace be given,
And to faith's triumphant vision,
Be this house the gate of Heaven!

Through our night of toil and trial,
Thou, O Lord, hast been our stay;
Step by step Thine hand hath led us,
Till our eyes behold the day;
Here within Thy holy temple,
We Thy mercies will record,
And with grateful songs of praises,
Magnify and bless the Lord.

Benediction by Rev. Dr. Palmer.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lord's Supper, Revs. Hart and Seccombe, and Deacons Stearns, Williamson, Thom, and Cook officiating.

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4 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Children's meeting, addressed by Revs. Clapp, Packard, and Williams, and Bro. Nind. Deacon I. C. Stearns presiding.

7½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Scriptures were read, and prayer offered, by Rev. L. S. Griggs. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Clapp. Text—John 14: 2, 3. Theme—Glimpses of Heaven.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary was then read; after which Rev. R. Hall stated that $10,500 had been expended by the Home Missionary Society in this State, during the year; and gave a general survey of the field, and the difficulties in the way of procuring ministers for fields now destitute. He also made honorable mention of the labors of Rev. A. Morse and wife, in the erection of the church at Austin.

Rev. H. Willard, Secretary of Home Evangelization, addressed the meeting, intimating the scope of the work.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:

Resolved, 1st, That this Conference acknowledges its great indebtedness to the brethren and citizens of Austin, for their truly generous Christian hospitality. Parting from you, we implore the Master, for whose sake you have done this, to abide with you, and more abundantly bless you in all things spiritual and divine.

2d. That the thanks of this Conference are warmly extended to Dr. Wheat and wife, for kindly opening their doors for our social enjoyment.

3d. That this Conference presents its thanks to those railroad companies which have generously reduced their fare on their several lines.

4th. That the thanks of this Conference are warmly given to our Moderator for the impartial, patient, Christian courtesy with which he has presided over our deliberations.

5th. That this Conference fully appreciates the labor of love done for them by the Committee of Arrangements, and presents them its sincere thanks.

A suitable response was made by Rev. A. Morse.

The Conference then adjourned to meet at Owatonna Thursday, October 14th, 1869, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Thus closed the Twelfth Conference. A spirit of harmony and devotion characterized all the meetings. The members of Conference were greatly refreshed and encouraged, and separated with enlarged conceptions of the grandeur of our work, in doing what we can to bring the people of this favored State to the knowledge and love of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

S. W. FURBER, Moderator.
L. S. GRIGGS, Recording Sec.
WM. LEAVITT, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL SESSION.

DELEGATES TO OTHER RELIGIOUS BODIES.

General Association of California,.....R. Hall.
" " Connecticut,.....E. J. Hart.
" " Illinois,.....A. Fuller.
" " Indiana,.....G. Campbell.
" " Iowa,.....W. B. Dada.
" " Kansas,.....Palmer Litts.
" " Massachusetts,.....I. G. D. Stearns.
" " Michigan,.....A. K. Packard.
" " Nebraska,.....C. Shedd.
" " New Hampshire,.....E. S. Williams.
" " New York,.....A. D. Roe.
" " Oregon,.....B. A. Dean.
" Conference Maine,.....J. S. Coggswell.
" " Missouri,.....H. Willard.
" " Ohio,.....E. Gale.
" " Rhode Island,.....J. W. Strong.
" " Vermont,.....Wm. Leavitt.
" Convention Wisconsin,.....J. F. Dudley.
Synod of Minnesota,.....A. Morse.
" " St. Paul,.....C. Galpin.
Baptist Convention of Minnesota,.....C. B. Sheldon.
Methodist Episcopal Conference of Minnesota,.....L. S. Griggs.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS—Griggs, Alden, Strong.
" ON PRINTING & FINANCE—Griggs, Cheney, Nind.
TREASURER OF WIDOWS' & ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY—E. S. Williams.
STATISTICAL SECRETARY—C. Seccombe.
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY—A. Fuller.
COMMITTEE TO VISIT NORTHFIELD COLLEGE—Taylor, Purmort, I. G. D. Stearns, Griggs, Hart.
SECRETARY OF HOME EVANGELIZATION—H. Willard.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To Receive and Indorse Aplications of Churches, in this State, for Aid from the American Congregational Union, and to Forward those Indorsed to the Secretary of the Society—J. F. Dudley, of Winona, and R. Hall, of St. Paul.

To Receive and Indorse Applications from Churches for Aid from A. H. M. S., and to Forward those Indorsed to the Secretary of the Society for this State: Central Association—C. C. Salter, Minneapolis, and A. K. Packard, Anoka; Southern Association—J. F. Dudley, Winona, and C. Shedd, Mantorville.

[N. B.—The churches should recognize these Committees, as they were appointed at the request of the Societies concerned.]

Corresponding Secretary—A. Fuller, till October, 1871.

Statistical Secretary—C. Seccombe, till October, 1871.

Recording Secretary—L. S. Griggs, till October, 1871.

NAMES OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

Northfield—H. Scriver, J. H. Spencer, M. W. Skinner.
St. Paul—Rev. R. Hall.
Zumbrota—Rev. C. Seccombe.
Minneapolis—A. T. Hale.
Cottage Grove—S. W. Furber.
Winona—Rev. J. F. Dudley.
Faribault—Rev. J. W. Strong, J. L. Noyes.
Anoka—Rev. A. K. Packard.
Rochester—Rev. A. Fuller.
West Eau Claire, Wis.—Rev. George Spaulding.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE.

AUSTIN, October 17, 1868.

The Committee on Printing and Finance submit the following report:

Deficiency from last year,	$ 1 68
Paid D. Sinclair & Co. for printing 600 copies of Minutes,	112 00
" " " " for blank certificates,	1 75
" L. S. Griggs for making MS. copy of Minutes,	3 25
" for postage and stationery,	7 65
" bill of Statistical Secretary,	2 00
	$128 33
Received from the churches,	$111 59
Deficiency,	$16 74

Forty-eight churches have paid according to request of Conference.

Copies of the minutes, one for every six members, were sent to all the churches of the Conference.

The account of the Committee containing all the items has been audited by Harlan W. Bey, of Austin,

J. F. DUDLEY,
L. S. GRIGGS,
WM. CHENEY,
} *Committee.*

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY,

Cash on hand reported at St. Cloud,	$175 39
Interest,	17 53
Collected at Austin,	28 50
	$221 42
Advance Stock,	100 00
	$321 42

EDWIN S. WILLIAMS,
Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

At our last Annual Conference, we were permitted to rejoice in revival influences pervading nearly all our churches, and we felt encouraged by the large addition made to our membership.

Now we have to report a year of labor and waiting with far less result in those things that can be seen and measured than we had hoped for, and a shadow of disappointment has come over us as we have compared the large promise of the opening year with the few sheaves we now gather at its close.

Is it thus, brethren, that the Lord of the harvest is humbling us and teaching us anew that though Paul may plant and Appollos water it is God that giveth the increase? If this be the lesson, let us receive it thankfully and let us be encouraged and hope for strength out of our weakness, believing and knowing that He who has given us the seed for our sowing and who has also given it its life, is able in His own good time to give an abundant harvest.

We should, however, be ungrateful to God if we spoke of the year now past as one altogether barren and unfruitful. God has been gracious in the bestowal of many blessings upon us. Some of our churches have enjoyed precious revivals, and not a few souls have confessed Christ as their Saviour and entered heartily into His service. Other churches report a healthful religious interest attended with occasional conversions throughout the year.

Besides this, nearly all our churches that have enjoyed the stated ministers of the word are encouraged by an increased attendance at the place of worship, and a good degree of material prosperity, together with that measure of harmony and brotherly kindness that is itself one of the most precious fruits of Christian effort. Let us hope that the spirit of Him who is our head may so pervade all His members that we may be indeed one body in Christ.

Our statistics show some gain in the number of churches in our State, four new ones having been organized, while one, under the offer of extra pecuniary aid, has changed its polity and been received into Presbyterian fellowship.

The Sunday School interest has made most gratifying progress ni our

churches during the year, and from almost every field where our brethren have pushed this work, we are cheered with such results as show that the Lord is indeed pleased with, and does bless in a special manner, the effort thus made to gather the lambs into His fold.

We are also permitted to rejoice in the divine favor which has attended our effort to advance the interests of sound learning in our State. Our college has been in successful operation during the year as a preparatory school, and has already won for itself an honorable place among the literary institutions of the State. It has also been consecrated in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and many of the students have already given their hearts to Christ. The new year is opening most hopefully with the addition of a competent and able head professor, an increased attendance of pupils, and enlarged facilities for the work of instruction.

We are also renewedly blessed and strengthened by the Lord of the Harvest, who has heard our prayer and sent new laborers to our aid; and we are the more glad to welcome these helpers since they remind us again of the love and sympathy and prayers of those friends at the East whose hearts God has moved to help us. Let it greatly quicken our courage and zeal that we have such sympathy and aid in our work.

In conclusion, brethren, let us keep steadily in view the great object before us, and labor and look for great results; indeed we *ought not* to be satisfied with any partial or moderate success. We must not forget that we are in the *West* and that the tide of emigration is moving in upon us, and our cities and towns are making rapid progress in wealth and population, therefore our churches can scarcely fail to grow in material strength; we must not, then, be content to gather up these sheaves which others have reaped for us: we must plant and water and harvest for ourselves, we must not feel that our duty is done till we have gathered up and united all the Christian influence that comes to us, and brought it effectively to the work of Christianizing this land.

Besides we are to remember that we are the representatives of our faith and polity in this great State of Minnesota; we must remember how broad is its domain, how rapidly and widely its population is increasing and spreading, and think of that day, not far distant, when this young State shall rank among the great and powerful States of our Union, and when its wealth, its political power, its moral influence, and its Christian character, shall be an important source of the power that must shape the course of our country and the world. Thus we shall feel, and stir up our churches to feel, that we live and labor for great objects and with relation to great events. It will not be enough that we look carefully after home interests and set things in order in our own churches; we shall push out our efforts on every hand to meet the growing wants of the whole State, we shall build our college and fill it with students, we shall encourage Home Missionary work and Home Missionary labors, we shall pray for and

help feeble churches, we shall be at pains to explain and commend our faith and polity, and above all, we shall spread everywhere and in every way the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, having faith in the speedy coming of that day when "all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord."

A. FULLER,
Corresponding Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

AUSTIN, October 15th, 1868.

Northfield College has now had an existence for one year, and the Visiting Committee appointed at the last Annual Conference, would report, that several visits have been made, both during term time and at the close of the year. All these visits have suggested points of interest, much to commend and nothing positively to censure.

The first year of practical life to a college is a peculiar experience. The effort to be put forth, the labor to be performed, the money to be expended, the wisdom, prudence and good judgment to be exercised, all lay a burden of great responsibility upon those who constitute its executive head. All such institutions must have an infancy and childhood before maturity is attained. And often this period of immaturity and dependence is attended by many embarrassments and difficulties, suggestive now of hope and now of edspair. Such at least has been the early history of nearly all of our Eastern colleges.

Considering the amount of money expended by Northfield College the past year, the conveniences enjoyed, and the work accomplished, the churches have occasion to congratulate themselves upon the success of this new enterprise.

That the selection of professors has been eminently fortunate is apparent from the deep interest and just pride which the students have manifested in the institution, and also from the faithful training and scholarly habits developed in their recitations and examinations. In the exercises attended by members of the Committee, there seemed to be no attempt at a display of superficial knowledge, but a thorough comprehension of the

subject, and an easy, natural, scholarly way of presenting it, suggestive of thought and method, rather than as a mere exercise of memory. It was very gratifying also to observe the freedom, confidence and sympathy existing between both teacher and pupils. As a whole the exercises attended by the Committee have been highly creditable to the students, to the professors, and the friends of the College.

As this institution is an offspring of the church, and a child of many prayers, it is a source of great joy to know that the Holy Spirit has set his seal of approbation upon Northfield College by converting to the faith as it is in Jesus, *twelve* students during the year, who are giving good evidence of a work of grace wrought in their hearts. Three or four of the young men are studying with the ministry in view, and if the churches are faithful others will soon go and do likewise, and thus shall be fulfilled the promise that the "bread cast upon the waters shall be found again after not many days."

In the opinion of the Committee, this report would be very deficient, if it should speak of the success already attained and omit to set forth the pressing needs of the College.

In the first place, a new building for the accommodation of one of the sexes should be erected with as little delay as possible. The building now occupied is comfortable, but it is too small, and in some respects ill adapted to present uses. As there is no good reason to doubt the wisdom of the plan adopted by the churches of educating the two sexes together, such accommodations should be provided as are suited to the work to be performed. The number of students has increased regularly since the opening of the first term, and it is apprehended that the next winter more will apply than can be accommodated. It is impossible to obtain sufficient suitable accommodations for either sex in Northfield, and if it were, the students thus provided for could not be brought under the same watchful care and supervision that they would receive under one roof. If a new building could be in readiness for students at the commencement of the next collegiate year, it would be a most timely provision.

This suggests a second point of much importance, to wit: the employment of an accomplished, Christian lady of experience, to instruct and take the oversight of the young ladies in the College. This is necessary that parents and friends may feel confident, that in the absence of mothers the daughters shall be faithfully taught and tenderly cared for.

Again, as the salaries now paid, or pledged, and the numerous incidental expenses of the College are greatly in excess of the income from all sources, it becomes evident that some measures must be adopted at once to increase the funds of the College.

The Committee agree that as soon as the commencement of the next winter term, a female teacher should be employed, and by the opening of the next collegiate year, the new building should be erected and furnished.

Anything less than this will be a neglect of duty and an embarrassment to students and professors.

In conclusion the Committee desire to call special attention to the fact that the Congregational Churches of Minnesota have a College established in Northfield, that it is in its infancy, and greatly needs the prayers, the fostering care, sympathy, and support of all the churches; moreover it is highly important that the friends of the College in Northfield and throughout the State should remember its public days, its examinations, and commencement exercises, and show their interest so far as possible by their personal attendance. By so doing new zeal and activity would be incited both in students and teachers, and more parents and children would be seeking for the advantages which this institution affords.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. NOYES, Chairman,
REV. A. MORSE,
REV. A. FULLER,
O. O. BALDWIN, Esq.,
DEA. GEO. HARRIS,
} *Committee.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOME EVANGELIZATION.

The Committee recommend, for the efficient performance of the desired and needful work, *first and chiefly, organization for work in each church.* Let pastors,—

1st. Examine their respective fields, and lay out work for the brethren.

2d. Establish social meetings of Christians for conversation on matters pertaining to religion and the church, and for the promotion of acquaintance with each other and the wants of the community.

3rd. Establish and sustain neighborhood prayer meetings, and Sunday Schools

4th. Appoint stated meetings monthly or quarterly, at which the brethren shall report to the church; and let a record of these reports be made and preserved.

These general details to be arranged, according to the peculiar circumstances of each church.

For the securing of such an organization intelligently, we recommend, *secondly*, the appointment by the Conference of a Secretary of Home Evangelization, and by each local Conferance or association, of a committee consisting of ministers and laymen, one of whom shall be a district Secretary, —each district Secretary to report to the State Secretary quarterly, giving an abstract of the work done in his district as furnished by the pastors of churches or church clerks,—the State Secretary to prepare a succinct report of the work, to be presented to the State Conference.

The work of Home Evangelization was organized, in accordance with the recommendations of the foregoing report, by the appointment of the following persons, viz:

State Secretary—Rev. Henry Willard.

Committee for Northern Association—Prof. G. Campbell, St. Anthony, Secretary.

Committee for Central Association—Rev. E. S. Williams, Northfield, Secretary, H. Scriver, Northfield, Bro. Adams, E. Prairieville.

Committee for Southern Association—Rev. E. Brown, Medford, Secretary, Harlan W. Page, Austin, P. J. Sheldon, Owatonna.

Committee for (proposed) South-east Association—Rev. H. Willard, Plainview, Secretary, John Bally, Winona, Dr. C. S. Younglove, Rochester.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1st, That special gratitude to God is due for the success which has attended our efforts, thus far, to establish a Christian College at Northfield.

2d. That we approve the action of the Trustees in urging forward the erection of the proposed building, for which the ground has already been broken, and we pledge them the necessary means, both for this and the current expenses of the institution, until endowments can be secured.

3d. That for this purpose, we invite and will welcome another application to our churches, after the first day of June next; and we pledge them another $10,000, at the least, in response to that appeal.

4th. That in view of the ever binding command to "preach the gospel to every creature," and the present want of men as missionaries, we feel impelled to call our churches to more earnest, persistent, organized *work*, to bring all who wilfully neglect the gospel, those widely separated from a house of worship, and such as God casts upon us from foreign lands, under the influence of the preached word.

5th. That we believe the work of the American Home Missionary Society to be according to the mind of Christ, and that its present policy and method of labor, are well adapted to evangelize our land, and that we will not forget this "mother of us all" in our prayers and contributions.

6th. That we fully endorse the Sabbath School Association to enlarge Sabbath School work, and urge all our churches to support and co-operate with G. W. Prescott, the State Superintendent of this noble work.

7th. That we look with painful apprehension on the increasing tendency to forget and deny the sacredness of the Sabbath as a day appointed of God, for rest and His worship, and that we will labor for its stricter observance, and earnestly pray this people and especially all directors and agents of railroad and steamboat companies, to make it a day of rest to themselves and their employees, lest they bring the wrath of the Lord on the land.

8th. That we take an unabated interest in the progress of civil and religious freedom in our land, and that while many former slave autocrats, and some unprincipled politicians aim to deprive the freedmen of their civil and personal rights, and the Church of Rome is aiming to turn them from the Protestant faith and worship, we will remember to help them in every way, as a people whom God has committed to the care of the Church of Christ.

9th. That the present as well as the past principles of the American Tract Society at Boston call for the sympathy and help of our churches; and this Conference recommends that their contributions be made to its treasury.

10th. That we fully believe no power but that of God, acting on men's appetites by the Gospel, can roll back the tide of intemperance, causing poverty, vice and crime, destroying natural affection, self-respect, and the soul for which Christ died; therefore, we entreat the ministry to declare the Bible doctrine of temperance, and call upon all members of our churches to abstain from such occupations as are known to increase this great evil.

OBITUARY.

Rev. S. D. Trembly died at Paynesville, Minn., June 28, 1868, aged 69. He was born in New Jersey, June 2, 1799; was ordained a deacon of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Bishop Thomas A. Morris, in Elmira, N. N. Y., September 16, 1838; and ordained Elder by the New York yearly Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist connection, at Syracuse, June 23, 1844.

After six years of itinerant service in the M. E. Church, he left that body, and joined the Wesleyans,—first, because he disapproved of the Episcopacy; secondly, because he disliked their position in regard to slavery; and thirdly, because the current sentiment and practice of the denomination were favorable to secret societies. With the fervent piety of the Wesleyans, and with the zealous testimony, which he considered it their great mission to bear against the three errors above named, he was always in hearty accord; though in some points of doctrine, he said to the writer, "I was always what might be called a moderate Calvinist." Still he would have found no occasion to leave the body of Christians with whom twenty-three years of his ministerial life had been so pleasantly spent, and whom he still loved with unabated affection, but for an effort which was made to unite all the non-Episcopal branches of the Methodist family in one body; and which then (June, 1867,) promised success, and promised also to lower the tone, if not to silence the testimony, of Wesleyans, against secret societies. On this point father Trembly felt strongly. Shortly before his death he expressed solicitude lest the friends should find themselves under the necessity of calling upon some minister who was a Free Mason, or an Odd Fellow, to preach his funeral sermon.

Thrown, moreover, in the providence of God, in his last days, into a community not well supplied with religious privileges, and burning still with desire to preach the gospel, he chose, in July, 1867, to gather the handful of praying ones, who sympathized and co-operated with him, into a Congregational church, of six—afterward increased to nine—members, who obtained for him a commission, and a small appropriation from the American Home Missionary Society.

With $32 contributed by members of our Conference at St. Cloud, last year, and the help of his little church, and other friends at Paynesville, he erected, at a cost of $300, a little chapel, 18 by 26, in which he preached; and, which, in consequence of a catastrophe which befel the Methodist chapel, proved to be of great service to others, as well as themselves, affording the only public place where, during the year, a congregation could convene for worship, or a Sabbath School assemble.

By nature, father Trembly was a man of energy, of decided convictions, and yet of kindly temper. His life was consistent; he was true to his convictions,—"an honest man, the noblest work of God."

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1868.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	MINISTERS.	Commenced Labor.	Condition Sept. 1, 1868. Members. Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Add'ns. Profess'n.	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Excom.	Letter.	Total.	Bapt Adults.	Infants.	S. S. & Bible Class.	Ben. Contribut'ns.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66	6	13	19	1										50	45 00	
Alexandria	Dec. 14, '67.	B. F. Haviland	Nov. 1, '67.	4	8	12			1	1									
Anoka	May 6, '55	A. K. Packard	Mar. 9, '60.	23	42	65	12	5	4	9	1		3	4	4	3	75	35 00	New church occupied,
Austin	July 6, '57	Unsupplied	Dec. 1, '64	20	29	49	2		3	4			4	4		1	80	86 80	[not finished.
Bear Valley	May 1, '68	J. E. Burbank	July 8, '68	4	6	10	2		10	10									Sub. to College $22,00.
Beaver	Mar. 4, '63	H. Willard	May 1, '67	6	8	14	2	3	11	14					2			15 00	
Bristol	July 21, '67.	J. A. Jones																	
Bristol (Welsh)	Apr. 27, '67.	J. A. Jones																	
Butternut Valley (W)	1857	P. Peregrine	Apr. 1, '68	11	15	26		2	1	3						2		40	
Cannon Falls	Aug. '56	E. W. Merrill	Sept. 12, '67.	11	17	28		7	5	12			2	2	3	5	65	15 00	
Chain Lake Centre	May 27, '65.	J. C. Strong	Feb. 20, '64.	9	9	18	3						2	2		3	40		
Claremont	April '60	C. Shedd	April '60	7	13	20		6	5	11			2	2	4		100	18 75	
Clearwater	Apr. 20, '59.	J. G. D. Stearns	Apr. 19, '68.	20	47	67	14				1		4	5			60		
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, '58.	E. J. Hart	Nov. 1, '67.	23	34	57	7	14	4	18					3	13	50	50 95	Church nearly complet'd.
Elgin	Apr. 10, '58.	P. Litts	Nov. 1, '66	19	20	39		6	5	11			4	4			75	25 00	Expect to build.
Exc. & Chanhassan	July 17, '58.	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55.	38	56	94	4	3	3	6			2	2	3		100	115 15	
Faribault 1st Ch	Dec. 20, '55.	E. Gale	April 1, '66.	47	71	118	21	4	4	8			6	6	1	7	200	858 12	
Faribault Plymouth	Jan. 26, '66.	J. W. Strong	Jan. '66	38	63	101	4	9	6	15	1		10	11	1	6	164	370 00	
Fairmount	May 23, '68.	Unsupplied		4	6	10				10							30		
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57.	Unsupplied																	
Glenwood		A. C. Lathrop																	
Grove Lake		A. C. Lathrop																	
Guilford	April '60	A. Morse	Dec. 1, '64	2	5	7							1	1			Un.		
Hamilton	June 23, '60.	Unsupplied		14	22	36	4						1	1			100		
Hebron	Sept. 10, '64	P. Peregrine	April 1, '68.	8	9	17	1		3	3	1			1		1	45		
High Forest	June 21, '60.	Unsupplied		8	11	19	4												
Lake City	Aug. '56	W. B. Dada	Dec. 1, '67.	40	55	95	6	3	12	15	1		4	5			110	130 00	
Lakeland	May 6, '58.	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66.	7	12	19	3											23 00	
Lansing	July 19, '67.	E. Booth	May 1, '68.	6	18	24	1	3	6	9	1		1	2	1		Un		
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57.	G. Bent	March '61.	8	11	14	2		3	3	1		1	1			30	10 00	
Mantorville	Mar. 21, '58.	N. W. Grover	July 1, '68.	7	19	26			4	4							60		
Marine	Feb. 8, '58	I. O. Sloan (Presb.)	June 5, '68	1	11	12		5							8		14	8 00	
Mazeppa	May 19, '60.	J. E. Burbank	July 3, '68.	4	18	22	6	2		2			10	10			80		Sub. to College, $48,00.

Medford	Oct. 25, '56.	E. Brown	Jan. 1, '68.	18	20	83	1	1	5	6	..	..	10	10	..	..	....	10	00	
Minneapolis Plym'th	Apr. 28, '57.	C. C. Salter	Oct. 26, '62.	95	147	242	26	12	17	29	6	..	28	34	6	11	285	418	15	Ch. enl.; bell procured.
" Vine st.	Oct. 14, '67.	Wm. Leavitt	May 19, '67.	10	14	24	2	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	125	29	15	Four others propounded.
Monticello	Mar. 8, '56.	B. A. Dean	Aug. 1, '67.	18	18	36	5	7	4	11	1	1	3	5	5	2	75	45	00	
Nevada	May '68.	A. Morse		4	4	8	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	.....		
Northfield	Aug. 30, '56.	E. S. Williams	Mar. 26, '64.	74	109	183	13	18	15	33	4	.	6	12	8	2	125	.....		Church enlarged.
Orono	May 11, '61.	Unsupplied		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57.	L. S. Griggs	Aug. 1, '66.	42	71	113	6	40	18	58	..	..	8	8	24	5	180	111	40	Building.
Painsville	July 29, '66.	Unsupplied		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Plainview	Oct. 7, '68.	H. Willard	Sept. 1, '63.	12	24	36	13	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	..	4	50	60	00	
Prairieville East	May 18, '60.	L. C. Gilbert	March '66.	12	10	22	2	..	1	1	..	..	6	6	..	1	41	15	25	
Prescott, Wis	Feb. 15, '52.	M. M. Martin	Nov. 1, '65.	27	33	60	9	..	5	5	1	..	4	5	..	..	75	77	00	
Princeton	July '56	Unsupplied		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Quincy	May '68	Unsupplied		18	19	32	1	8	3	6	..	..	1	1	2	..	110	72	00	
River Falls, Wis	Feb. 3, '55.	Wm. Gill	Nov. 1, '62.	29	73	102	10	1	3	4	1	1	3	5	.	3	150	.....		
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58.	A. Fuller	Nov. 18, '66.	34	62	96	12	1	16	17	2	..	12	14	..	..	150	114	47	
Rushford	May 12, '60.	Wm. W. Snell	May 18, '55.	9	19	28	1	1	2	3	..	..	2	2	..	..	100	16	00	Ch. enlarged; cong. inc.
Saratoga	July 25, '56.	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66.	20	32	52	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	75	50	00	
Sauk Centre	Jan. 20, '67.	A. J. Pike		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 28, '55.	S. Hall	Sept '54.	5	7	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	35	00	Church repaired.
Smithfield	Mar. 5, '68.	H. Willard	May 1, '67.	4	10	14	..	1	13	14	..	..	..	..	1	..	Un.	15	00	
Somerset	Nov. 18, '66.	J. B. Ladd		10	7	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Un.	.....		
Spring Valley	May 24, '56.	Unsupplied		23	22	45	9	..	3	3	1	1	4	6	..	..	.....	8	00	
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, '51.	G. Campbell	1868	26	60	86	33	..	1	1	1	..	5	6	..	1	80	57	45	
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '59.	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66.	25	36	61	2	3	2	5	1	..	1	2	3	1	125	200	00	Church repaired.
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64.	G. I. Wood	Nov. 24, '68.	8	8	16	..	4	2	6	..	..	1	1	..	3	80	17	00	
St. Paul	June 17, '58.	Unsupplied		82	53	85	20	7	15	22	1	..	8	9	1	2	105	125	00	Church painted outside.
Sterling	Aug. '57	N. A. Hunt	Mar. 1, '64.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Vernon Centre	Oct. 28, '64.	N. A. Hunt	Feb. '64.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57.	H. Loomis, Jr	Oct. 1, '67.	24	43	67	6	5	4	9	..	..	2	2	2	1	115	88	02	
Waseca	Jan. 16, '68.	E. H. Alden	Nov. '67.	8	8	16	..	..	..	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	Un.	.....		
Wasioja	June '58.	C. Shedd	June '58.	3	13	16	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..	.....	.....		
West Eau Claire, Wis	Dec. '56.	G. Spaulding	April '65.	28	51	79	10	6	1	7	..	..	2	2	5	3	120	196	00	
Winnebago City	May 28, '59.	Unsupplied		4	10	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....		
Winona	Dec. 10, '54.	J. F. Dudley	Sept. 1, '66.	57	106	163	20	1	6	7	2	..	12	14	..	1	800	800	00	Ch. enlarged and rep.
Woodland Mills	July 7, '67.	Unsupplied		5	14	19	..	6	..	6	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	.....		
Zumbrota	June 28, '57.	J. S. Coggswell	Oct. '68.	30	48	78	9	4	..	4	1	..	1	2	..	..	100	90	00	Bell procured.

SUMMARY.

Whole No. of Churches, 70; of which three are in Wisconsin. Whole membership, 2865; 1078 males; 1792 females; non-residents, 265. Whole No of additions, 406; viz: 185 on profession; 221 by letter. Adult baptisms, 86; infant baptisms, 76. No. of S. S. and Bible Class scholars, 3820. Benevolent contributions, $800[illegible]4,16.

NOTE.—The total membership shows less than last year, for the reason that nothing is credited to those churches that have failed to report.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1868.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation	P. O. Address.	Association.
Alden, E. H	Apr. 18, '64.	Acting Pastor	Waseca	Royalton Vt.
Andrews, D	Jan. 29, '40.	Without charge.	Winona	Southern Minn.
Barnes, J. K	1838	" "	Cannon Falls	Central "
Booth, Edwin	Feb. 18, '66.	Acting Pastor	Lansing	Wisconsin Con.
Brown, Edward	Jan. 13, '58.	" "	Medford	Southern Minn
Burbank, J. E	Apr. 18, '58.	" "	Mazeppa	" "
Burt, David	Nov. 4, '51.	" "	Minneapolis	" "
Campbell, Gabriel	Oct. 27, '68.	" "	St. Anthony	Northern "
Coggswell, J. S	Licentiate	" "	Zumbrota	Southern "
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56.	" "	Lake City	" "
Dean, B. A	July 20, '66.	" "	Monticello	Northern "
Dudley, J. F	Dec. 29, '64.	" "	Winona	Southern "
Fox, A. K	Oct. 25, '59.	" "	Princeton	Northern "
Fuller, A	Oct. 2, '62.	Pastor	Rochester	Southern "
Gale, Edmund	Dec. 24, '56.	Acting Pastor	Faribault	Central "
Galpin, Charles	Sept. '44.	Without charge.	Excelsior	" "
Gilbert, L. C	July 16, '40.	Acting Pastor	East Prairieville	" "
Gill, Wm	May 26, '63.	Pastor	River Falls, Wis	" "
Griggs, L. S	June 28, '64.	Acting Pastor	Owatonna	Southern "
Grover, N. W	Sept. 3, '68.	" "	Mantorville	" "
Hall, R	Aug. 8, '50.	Agt. A. H. M. S.	St. Paul	Central "
Hall, S	June, '31.	Acting Pastor	Sauk Rapids	Northern "
Hart, E. J	Jan. 2, '56.	" "	Cottage Grove	Central "
Haviland, B. F	Dec. 21, '59.	" "	Alexandria	Northern "
Hunt, N. A	1846	" "	Sterling	Central "
Ladd, J. B	Licentiate	Without charge.		
Lathrop, A. C		Acting Pastor	Glenwood	
Loomis, H. Jr	June 1, '59.	" "	Wabashaw	Southern Minn.
Litts, Palmer	Jan. 24, '65.	" "	Elgin	" "
Leavitt, Wm	Jan. 27, '64.	" "	Minneapolis	Northern "
Martin, M. M	Aug. 24, '64.	" "	Prescott, Wis	Central "
Merrill, E. W	April 5, '64.	" "	Cannon Falls	" "
Miles, G. H	1860	" "	St. Charles	Southern "
Morse, Alfred	June 7, '47.	" "	Austin	" "
Packard, A. K	Dec. 16, 51.	Pastor	Anoka	Northern "
Peregrine, Philip	Mar. 10, '61.	Acting Pastor	Hebron	Welsh of Penn.
Pierce, N. H	1861	Asso'd w N Col.	Northfield	Central Minn.
Pike, A. J		Acting Pastor	Sauk Centre	Northern "
Roe, A. D	Feb. 5, '67.	" "	Afton	Central "
Salter, C. C	April 2, '59	Pastor	Minneapolis	Northern "
Seccombe, Charles	Aug. 8, '50.	Sen. Prof. N. Col.	Northfield	Central "
Shedd, Charles	March '42.	Acting Pastor	Wasioja	Southern "
Sheldon, C. B	Oct. 9, '51.	" "	Excelsior	Central "
Snell, W. W	Oct. 16, '59.	" "	Rushford	Southern "
Spaulding, George	May 10, '48.	" "	West Eau Claire, Wis.	Central "
Stearns, I. G. D	May 10, '43.	" "	Clearwater	Northern "
Stroes, H. M. H	July 3, '61.	" "	Forestville	Southern "
Strong, James W	Sept. 28, '62	Pastor.	Faribault	" "
Strong, John C	Dec. 16, '46.	Acting Pastor	Chain Lake Centre	" "
Teele, Edwin	Oct. 18, '52.	Without charge.	Bristol Centre	" "
Twichell, Royal	Jan. 12, '42.	" "	Kingston	Northern "
Willard, Henry	Oct. 20, '58.	Acting Pastor	Plainview	Southern "
Williams, E. S	June 10, '64.	Pastor	Northfield	Central "
Williams, J. N	July, '47.	Without charge.	Lake City	Southern "
Wood, G. I		Acting Pastor	St. Cloud	Northern "

SUMMARY.

Pastors	6
Acting Pastors	39
Agent of American Tract Society	1
Associated with N. Col.,	2
Others	7
Total	55

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.		Place of Meeting.	Moderator.	Recording Secretary.	Corresponding Sec'y.	Statistical Sec'y.	Preacher and Text.
October 24, 1856.		St. Anthony.....	Rev. S. Hall.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. C. Seccombe....		Rev. W. R. Stevens.....John 1:4
Annual Meeting on the SECOND THURSDAY of October, each year.	1 1857	Prescott, Wis....	Rev. L. Armsby....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. C. Seccombe....		Rev. C. B. Sheldon.....2 Cor 4:7
	2 1858	Faribault.....	Rev. D. Andrews...	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. C. Seccombe...	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. R. Hall.....Rev 11:15
	3 1859	Winona	Rev. C. Seccombe..	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. L. Armsby.....Rev 3:18
	4 1860	St. Paul.....	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Andrews.....Is 55:10, 11
	5 1861	Anoka.....	Rev. O. A. Thomas.	Rev. C. B. Sheldon..	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. S. Fiske..... Phil 4:6
	6 1862	Northfield	Rev. C. Shedd.....	Rev. A. K. Packard.	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Shedd.....2 Thes 2:13
	7 1863	Lake City.....	Rev. W. R. Stevens.	Rev. A. K. Packard.	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. J. W. Miller.....Jn 17: 20,21
	8 1864	Rochester.....	Bro. C. M. Goodsell.	Rev. A. K. Packard.	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Seccombe.....Prov 24:10
	9 1865	Minneapolis.....	Bro. R. G. Lincoln.	Rev. J. F. Dudley...	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Burt .....Eph 2:1
	10 1866	Faribault.....	Bro. W. J. Copp...	Rev. J. F. Dudley...	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. B. Smith.....Matt 23:8
	11 1867	St. Cloud.....	Rev. J. W. Strong..	Rev. J. F. Dudley...	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. E. J. Hart.....Luke 19:11-27
	12 1868	Austin.....	Bro. S. W. Furber..	Rev. L. S. Griggs....	Rev. A. Fuller.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. Fuller, Job 40:3,4, and 42:5,6

HISTORICAL SUMMARY CONTINUED.

Annual Meeting on the Second Thursday Of October of each Year.	Churches.	Ministers	Admissions.		Removals.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommun'd			Adult.	Infant.		
1856	8	9											
1857	16	16											
1858	41	27	137...	267...	5...	40...	0...	1037...	71...	42...	41...	1116....	$ 966 58
1859	51	36	179...	233...	13...	66...	1...	1446...	99...	75...	95...	1841....	725 31
1860	63	43	185...	201...	19...	140...	3...	1630...	180...	72...	90...	1868....	821 90
1861	64	46	90...	122...	12...	91...	12...	1539...	169...	26...	66...	1841....	1103 92
1862	61	41	87...	105...	16...	48...	7...	1514...	255...	16...	60...	1843....	730 36
1863	59	45	118...	125...	28...	70...	2...	1877...	297...	35...	63...	1244....	1029 14
1864	68	47	255...	498...	33...	109...	3...	2140...	314...	118...	85...	2737....	2644 66
1865	64	47	185...	169...	28...	107...	7...	2465...	324...	77...	71...	2623....	3062 56
1866	66	52	156...	236...	33...	169...	5...	2569...	281...	68...	71...	2880....	3638 26
1867	71	55	300...	333...	31...	174...	6...	2925...	255...	134...	75...	3419....	2798 54
1868	'70	55	185...	221...	28...	174...	4...	2865...	265...	86...	76...	3820....	3004 16

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws; each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers, who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at seven o'clock, P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual Meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements, consisting of three, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through their hands, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a visiting committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Northfield College, and report at the next meeting.

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1869

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT OWATONNA, OCTOBER 14–17, 1869.

ST. PAUL:
DISPATCH PRINTING COMPANY.
1869.

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF MINNESOTA.

OWATONNA, MINN., OCTOBER 14, 1869.

The representatives of the Churches of the General Conference of Minnesota, assembled for the Thirteenth Annual Session of the Conference, at Owatonna, Thursday evening, October 14th, 1869.

The opening service was held in the new Congregational House of Worship, at 7½ o'clock. Sermon by Rev. E. GALE, of the First Church of Faribault. Text—John 4, 22, last clause. Subject—Our indebtedness to the Jew.

After the sermon, an address of welcome was given by Rev. C. C. CRAGIN, acting pastor of the Church at Owatonna; and the Conference was called to order by the Recording Secretary, Rev. L. S. GRIGGS, of Owatonna.

It was voted to defer organization till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, and that a meeting for prayer should be held, commencing at 8¼ o'clock, to continue till the hour for the permanent organization. Adjourned after an anthem by the choir.

FRIDAY, OCT. 15, 8¼ o'clock, A. M.

Prayer meeting conducted by Rev. W. W. PATTON, D. D., of Chicago.

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9 O'CLOCK.

Conference called to order by the Recording Secretary.

HARLAN W. PAGE, of Austin, was chosen Scribe.

The Churches were called, and the members of Conference enrolled, with a final result as follows, viz:

Churches Represented.	*Pastors and Ministers in charge.*	*Delegates.*
Afton	A. D. Roe	Mrs. Olive K. Haskell.
Anoka	A. K. Packard	J. B. Woodbury.
Austin	E. M. Williams	Harlan W. Page.
Beaver	H. Willard	
Cannon Falls	E. W. Merrill	
Claremont	C. Shedd	S. S. Beckwith.
Clearwater	J. G. D. Stearns	
Cottage Grove	E. J. Hart	Theodore Furber.
Elgin	Palmer Litts	George Rhames.
Excelsior and Chanhassen	C. B. Sheldon	Rev. C. Galpin.
Faribault, 1st Church	E. Gale	Hiram Howard
" Plymouth Ch.	J. W. Strong	Prof. J. L. Noyes.
Granville	E. W. Merrill	
Guilford	E. M. Williams	
Hamilton	R. S. Armstrong	G. Carter.
High Forest	R. S. Armstrong	
Lake City	W. B. Dada	
Lakeland	A. D. Roe	
Lansing		D. M. Evans.
Mantorville	N. W. Grover	Geo. B. Arnold.
Mazeppa	E. P. Dada	
Medford	E. Brown	N. Williamson.
Merton		P. J. Sheldon.
Minneapolis, Plym. Ch.		Wm. Cheney.
" Vine St. Ch,	Wm. Leavitt	
Nevada	A. Morse	
Northfield	E. S. Williams	Rev. N. H. Pierce
Owatonna	C. C. Cragin	Rev. L. S. Grigga.
Plainview	H. Willard	
Prairieville, East	L. C. Gilbert	Abner Beardsley
River Falls, Wis	Wm. Gill	
Rochester	A. Fuller	B. D. Toan.
Sauk Center	A. J. Pike	
Smithfield	H. Willard	
Somerset	J. B. Ladd	E. Sibley.
Spring Valley		J. B. Thayer.
St. Anthony	G. Campbell	B. C. Morrison.
St. Cloud	J. Tompkins	
St. Paul		S. S. Taylor.
Wabashaw	S. A. Vandyke	
Waseca	E. H. Alden	F. J. Stevens.
Wasioja	C. Shedd	
Winnebago City	J. D. Todd	
Winona		Rev. D. Andrews.
Woodland Mills		F. W. Brown.
Zumbrota		G. Sanderson.

Rev. R. Hall, State Agent for A. H. M. Society.
Prof. C. Seccombe, Northfield College.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. H. H. Benson, Agent American Missionary Association.
Rev. D. B. Coe, D. D., Secretary A. H. M. Society.
Rev. Christopher Cushing, Secretary American Congregational Union.
Rev. W. W. Patton, D. D., Del. from Gen. Assocation of Ill., and Editor of the *Advance*.
Rev. G. S. F. Savage, Secretary American Tract Society, Boston.
Rev. J. K. Greene, Miss. of the A. B. C. F. M. to Broosa, West'n Turkey.
Rev. Geo. B. Nutting, Miss. of the A. B. C. F. M. Oorfa,, Cent'l Turkey.
Rev. Prescott Fay, of Hillsboro Conference of N. H.
Rev. N. D. Porter, of General Conference of Ohio.
Rev. L. P. Spelman, of General Association of Michigan.
Rev. H. A. Stimson, of Andover Association of Mass.
Rev. L. A. Wadsworth, of General Convention of Wis.
Rev. Austin Willey, of General Association of California.
Rev. E. K. Cressey, Delegate from Bap. Convention of Minn.
Rev. T. M. Gossard, Delegate from M. E. Conference of Minn.
Rev. W. S. Wilson, Pastor O. S. Presb. Church, Owatonna.

Prof. J. L. NOYES, of Faribault, was chosen Moderator.

At the request of the Moderator, Revs. C. SECCOMBE and A. FULLER were appointed to assist him in the appointment of the committees required by By-Laws 2 and 10.

The Constitution and By-Laws were read by the Scribe.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, through the Chairman, Rev. L. S. GRIGGS, recommending as follows, viz:

That the Sessions of each day begin at 9 A. M. and 2 and 7 P. M., and close at 12 M. and 5 P. M.

That business be taken up in the order, substantially, as reported in the following minutes.

Report adopted.

The Auditor not being present, Bro. H. GOODHUE, Jr., of Northfield College, was appointed Auditor.

Rev. W. B. DADA, of Lake City, was added to the Committee of Arrangements.

Reports of Delegates to Corresponding Bodies were now received. The General Convention of Wisconsin only had been

visited by any member of Conference. Prof. SECCOMBE spoke of the interesting meeting there. Some delegates had written letters, while others had either forgotten their appointment, or been prevented by circumstances from performing their duty.

The following brethren were successively introduced and the Conference was addressed by each in turn, viz:

Rev. W. W. PATTON, D. D., representing the General Association of Illinois.

Rev. H. H. BENSON, of the General Convention of Wisconsin.

Rev. T. M. GOSSARD, of the M. E. Conference of Minn.

Rev. E. K. CRESSEY, of the Baptist Convention of Minn.

Rev. W. S. WILSON, Pastor of the O. S. Presbyterian Church of Owatonna; and

Rev. H. A. STIMSON, who spoke particularly of the recent meeting of the American Board at Pittsburg.

Letters were read from Rev. LYMAN WHITING, D. D., of the General Convention of Wisconsin; Rev. SAMUEL F. PORTER, of the General Conference of Ohio; Rev. F. E. NORCROSS, Delegate from the General Conference of Maine; and Rev. I. P. SMITH, of the General Association of Nebraska.

Recess of ten minutes.

The following Committees were reported, viz:

On Place and Preacher for next meeting,—Rev. A. MORSE, Bros. B. D. TOAN, and T. FURBER.

On Correspondence with other Religious Bodies,—Revs. H. WILLARD and PALMER LITTS, and Bro. S. S. TAYLOR.

On Finance and Printing,—Revs. L. S. GRIGGS and N. H. PIERCE, and Bro. N. WILLIAMSON.

On Resolutions,—Revs. A. K. PACKARD and S. A. VANDYKE, and Bro. GEO. B. ARNOLD.

To Visit Northfield College,—Revs. E. M. WILLIAMS, L. J. WHITE, and E. BROWN, and Bros. HUDSON WILSON and WM. CHENEY.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Finance and Printing reported. Report accepted and adopted. (See Appendix.)

Rev. Dr. PATTON, Editor of *The Advance* newspaper, pre-

sented the cause of the paper, and the necessity of promoting its interests.

Rev. H. WILLARD explained his mode of extending its circulation, and spoke of his success. He had obtained more than 150 subscribers.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Conference was called to order by the Moderator, and prayer was offered by Prof. CAMPBELL.

On motion of Rev. E. BROWN, the Moderator was instructed to appoint a committee of three on the admission of Churches.

The report of the Committee on Northfield College was presented by Bro. S. S. TAYLOR, of St. Paul, Chairman.

Report accepted. (See Appendix.)

Remarks were made upon the condition and prospects of the College by Profs. GOODHUE and SECCOMBE, and by Revs. HALL, FULLER and STRONG, of the Board of Trustees.

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3 O'CLOCK.

The discussion was suspended, and a half-hour spent in prayer and conference under the lead of Bro. FULLER.

3½ O'CLOCK,

Discussion upon the condition and prospects of Northfield College resumed, and participated in by Bros. WILLIAMS of Austin, WILLIAMS of Northfield, PIERCE, BROWN, FULLER, PACKARD, DADA, WILLEY, TODD, and others.

A committee, consisting of Revs. TODD, LEAVITT and GRIGGS, was appointed to consider the matter further, and report at some future time.

Letters were presented and read from the Presbytery of Southern Minnesota, and from Rev. Dr. PAXTON, of New York, replying to the resolution adopted by Conference at its last meeting, with regard to the Church at Albert Lea. After discussion, the letters were referred to a committee, consisting of Bros. HALL, MORSE and E. M. WILLIAMS.

The Moderator announced the Committee on Admission of Churches to be Bros. HALL, FULLER and E. S. WILLIAMS.

After singing, and prayer by Rev. PRESCOTT FAY, Conference adjourned till evening.

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7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Moderator in the chair.

After singing, and prayer by Rev. J. TOMPKINS, the Secretary of Home Evangelization, Rev. H. WILLARD, presented his report.

Report accepted and adopted. (See Appendix.)

Addresses were then made, concerning the work of their respective Societies, by Rev. Dr. COE, Secretary of the A. H. M. Society; Rev. CHRISTOPHER CUSHING, Secretary of the Congregational Union; and Rev. G. S. F. SAVAGE, Secretary of the American Tract Society, of Boston.

An invitation was received to attend a social gathering at the house of Mr. J. W. DRESSER, on Saturday evening at 7½ o,clock,

Voted, To accept the invitation.

The order of business for to-morrow was then read by the chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. COE, and singing the doxology, "Praise GOD from whom," &c., the Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY, 8 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer meeting led by Rev. G. S. F. SAVAGE, of Chicago.

8½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference called to order by the Moderator.

The roll was called, and some additions made to it.

The committee on the case of the Church at Albert Lea being called, its chairman was excused on the ground of being personally involved in the reply of Dr. PAXTON, and Rev. A. FULLER was substituted on that committee in his stead.

Prof. SECCOMBE submitted his report as Statistical Secretary, which was accepted and adopted. (See Appendix.)

Voted, That a committee of three persons be appointed to take into consideration the subject of Home Evangelization.

Conference was next addressed by Rev. J. K. GREENE, returned Missionary of the A. B. C. F. M., from Turkey; and Rev. H. H. BENSON, Agent of the American Missionary Association.

Rev. A. MORSE, from the Committee on Place and Preacher, reported as follows, viz:

Place of next meeting,—Northfield.
Preacher,—Rev. W. B. DADA.
Alternate,—Rev. A. K. PACKARD.

Report accepted and adopted.

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10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Devotional exercises led by Bro. WILLIAMS, of Austin, continuing a half hour. After which a recess of five minutes.

After the call to order, the Moderator announced the Committee on Home Evangelization as follows, viz:

Rev. A. K. PACKARD, Prof. G. CAMPBELL, and Rev. J. G. D. STEARNS.

The report of the Committee on Northfield College was made by its chairman, Rev. J. D. TODD, in the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the Trustees and Faculty of Northfield College have our confidence, our sympathy, and our appreciation of their arduous efforts to

place the Institution upon a broad foundation for usefulness.

Resolved, That our duty to pray for it, and give to it, and work in its behalf by awakening in every way possible an interest, and securing students, shall not remain undone.

Resolved, That the Trustees be requested to prepare and issue a circular, setting forth, in brief, the history of the enterprise, and making a full exhibit of its finances from the first, together with such statements of its prospects and plans as they may think best calculated to awaken an interest, inspire confidence, and stimulate activity in making the Institution a power in our denomination for the progress of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Signed, J. D. TODD, WM. LEAVITT, L. S. GRIGGS. } *Committee.*

After remarks by several persons, the report was accepted and adopted unanimously.

The report of the committee on the case of the Church at Albert Lea, was read by Rev. A. FULLER, and accepted and adopted; and it was voted that a copy of this report be sent to the Presbytery of Southern Minnesota, and to Rev. Dr. PAXTON of New York. The report is as follows, viz:

WHEREAS, A minute was adopted at the meeting of the General Conference of Minnesota in 1868, in regard to the change of the Church at Albert Lea, from a Congregational to a Presbyterian Church, a copy of which was sent to the Presbytery of Southern Minnesota, and to Rev. Dr. PAXTON, of New York; and whereas, replies have been received both from the Presbytery and from Dr. PAXTON, bringing the facts of the case more clearly before us,

Resolved, That we accept from the Presbytery of Southern Minnesota their disclaimer of any responsibility for the transfer of the church at Albert Lea from the Congregational to the Presbyterian connection.

Resolved, That we also accept the statement of Rev. Dr. PAXTON, that "whatever responsibilities there are in the case, must rest upon him alone," and therefore we must consider him responsible for defeating the attempt of the Church to build a Congregational House of Worship, by offering them a larger amount of aid to build a Presbyterian Church, than they expected, or could obtain, from the Congregational Union.

Resolved, That without charging unworthy or unchristian motives upon any one, we record our entire disapproval of all such methods of church propagation, and enter our earnest protest against the interposition of such influences which, wherever and however carefully introduced, cannot fail to disturb the natural order of church growth, and must always

imperil the fraternal relations which ought to exist, and which we earnestly desire to cultivate with Presbyterian Churches.

Reports from Churches were next called for, and as some were obliged to leave in a few minutes on the train, it was voted that those pastors and delegates who were to leave, have an opportunity to report first.

Such reports were made, when it was voted to suspend reports, and proceed with miscellaneous business.

The following resolution was moved by Rev. J. TOMPKINS, viz:

"*Resolved*, That hereafter the verbal reports on the state of religion be made at the local Associations; that a written abstract be presented by the Scribe at this Conference; and that we dispense with the verbal reports from the particular churches in this Body."

After discussion, the resolution was laid on the table, and the subject embraced in the resolution was referred to a committee consisting of Bros. SECCOMBE, WILLIAMS of Austin, and DADA of Lake City.

The committee on admission of Churches reported through their chairman, Rev. R. HALL, recommending that the Churches at Granville and Merton be admitted to Conference.

They were so admitted.

The Committee of Arrangements made the following report, viz:

For to-morrow, Sabbath, preaching.

AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. E. P. DADA.
Evening Sermon—Rev. WM. LEAVITT.

AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. J. TOMPKINS.
Evening Sermon—Rev. A. K. PACKARD.

AT THE M. E. CHURCH.

Morning Sermon—Rev. L. P. SPELMAN.
Evening Sermon—Rev. J. D. TODD.

At the Congregational Church, services as reported in the following minutes.

Adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

After prayer, the report of Rev. E. S. WILLIAMS, Treasurer of Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, was made and accepted.

Conference listened to remarks by Rev. L. P. SPELMAN, of Michigan, and Rev. AUSTIN WILLEY, of Northfield, late from the General Association of California.

Rev. A. K. PACKARD, from the Committee on Resolutions, made a report, which was accepted, and the following resolutions were adopted *seriatim*:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of two ministers and three laymen be appointed to confer with Railroad, Steamboat and Stage Companies, whose lines lie wholly, or in part, within this State, to gather facts and opinions in regard to Sabbath desecration; and to set in operation so far as they can, such influences, as in their judgment, may be best adapted to secure the observance of the Sabbath; and to report at the next meeting of Conference.

"*Resolved*, That christian people, in political action, should demand that only men of integrity, sound moral principles, and of fitness in respect to ability, be placed in office, and that their duty requires them to use their influence to secure the nomination and election of such.

"*Resolved*, That we hereby declare ourselves emphatically in favor of prohibitory temperance laws; but regret that a political issue, in regard to general prohibition, is made in this State, at this time.

"*Resolved*, That we recognize in '*The Advance*,' a religious paper of unequalled value; and that, as such, we will heartily commend it to every family of our respective communities.

"*Resolved*, That we hail with pleasure the proposition to unite the American Tract Society at Boston with the Congregational S. S. and Publishing Society; and hope that such an arrangement may be made with the other denominations represented in the former Society, as shall be satisfactory to them, and make union possible and approved."

The following resolutions were then submitted and adopted, viz:

"Appreciating the assistance which our churches have received from the American Congregational Union in the erection of houses of worship, and the vital importance of this work to our churches, in view of their need of still further aid,

"*Resolved*, That we appoint a Secretary on church erection whose duty it shall be to have this subject in charge, correspond with the officers of

the American Congregational Union, and endeavor to secure from all our churches an annual contribution to this object, and report annually to this Body.

"*Resolved*, That we deeply appreciate the remarks made by Rev. Dr. Coe, Secretary of the A. H. M. Society, upon the importance of our churches becoming self-supporting in the shortest possible time, and that we urge upon them to give this subject earnest attention and corresponding action.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to each Association in this State, to appoint a Committee of Missions, whose duty it shall be to make themselves acquainted with the condition and wants of the feeble churches, and destitute neighborhoods, within the limits of the Association, represent their claims to the agent and officers of the A. H. M. Society, endorse applications for missionary aid, and take such other measures as they may deem expedient, to supply them with gospel ministrations."

Rev. A. Fuller, of Rochester, was elected Secretary of Church Erection for the ensuing year.

Rev. H. Willard, chairman of Committee on Correspondence with other religious Bodies, reported the following delegates for the ensuing year, viz:

General Association of		California,	E. H. Alden.
"	"	Connecticut,	A. J. Pike.
"	"	Illinois	S. A. Vandyke.
"	"	Indiana	C. Galpin.
"	"	Iowa	C. Shedd.
"	"	Kansas	A. Morse.
"	"	Massachusetts	J. W. Strong.
"	"	Michigan	E. Brown.
"	"	Nebraska	E. P. Dada.
"	"	New Hampshire	Bro. S. S. Taylor.
"	"	New Jersey	E. M. Williams.
"	"	New York	R. S. Armstrong.
"	"	Oregon	C. Seccombe.
"	Conference	Maine	W. B. Dada.
"	"	Missouri	Wm. Leavitt.
"	"	Ohio	Palmer Litts.
"	"	Rhode Island	J. G. D. Stearns.
"	"	Vermont	E. Gale.
"	Convention	Wisconsin	L. S. Griggs.
Synods of St. Paul and Minnesota			A. Fuller.
Baptist Convention of Minnesota			N. W. Grover.
M. E. Conference of Minnesota			E. S. Williams.

Voted, That in the absence of the regular delegate to the meeting of a Corresponding Body, any member of conference present is authorized to act as substitute.

Report accepted and adopted.

The following persons were announced as Committee on Sabbath Desecration, viz:

J. H. STEWART, of Winona. A. N. STOUGHTON, of Owatonna.
D. C. BELL, of Minneapolis. Rev. R. HALL, of St. Paul.
Rev. E. S. WILLIAMS, of Northfield.

Rev. L. S. GRIGGS was elected Treasurer, and HIRAM SCRIVER of Northfield, Auditor, for the ensuing year.

After a recess, on motion, a committee of three was appointed to consider the propriety of amending Article 13th of the Constitution, relating to the Committee of Arrangements.

Revs. BROWN, MORSE, and DADA of Lake City, were appointed such committee.

The reports from individual churches were next listened to.

Before the list was completed, Conference adjourned till 7 o'clock, for a short evening session.

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7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Moderator in the chair.

After prayer by Rev. J. G. D. STEARNS, the Committee on revision of the constitution reported in favor of amending Art. 13th, which, after discussion, was amended to read as follows, viz:

ARTICLE 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference, shall be introduced through this Business Committee, or by special vote.

The reports from churches were then resumed, but in a short time suspended, Conference voting to have a session for these reports on Sunday evening, after the regular exercises of worship.

The Committee on nomination of officers then reported as follows, viz:

Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises. { Rev. E. S. WILLIAMS, Bro. HIRAM SCRIVER, Rev. N. H. PIERCE.

Business Committee. { Rev. C. SECCOMBE, Rev. J. W. STRONG, Rev. A. FULLER.

Report accepted and adopted.

After prayer by Rev. C. CUSHING, Conference adjourned to attend a social gathering at the house of Mr. J. W. DRESSER.

SABBATH, OCT. 17th, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Missionary and Pastors' meeting, Rev. Dr. COE presiding.

The meeting was full of interest, and continued until interrupted by the people assembling to attend the Dedicatory Services at 10½ o'clock.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

1. Anthem, by the choir—

"I was glad when they said unto me."

2. Invocation, by Rev. R. HALL.
3. Singing,—

"When, O Lord, Thine ancient Israel,"

composed by Mrs. ESTHER M. MORSE, of Austin.

4. Reading Scriptures, by Prof. G. CAMPBELL.
5. Singing,—

"The perfect world by Adam trod."

6. Brief history of the building of the church, by Rev. L. S. GRIGGS.
7. Sermon, by Rev. C. SECCOMBE. Text—Is. 2: 2, 3.
8. Dedicatory Prayer, by Rev. Dr. COE.
9. Singing,—

"O Thou whose own vast temple stands."

10. Benediction, by Rev. Dr. COE.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lord's Supper was administered by Revs. W. B. DADA and WM. GILL, Deacons COOK of Austin, STEARNS of Zumbrota, THAYER of Spring Valley, and WILLIAMSON of Medford, officiating.

3½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

A children's meeting was held, led by Dea. S. C. STEARNS of Zumbrota, and addressed by Revs. H. H. BENSON, E. S. WILLIAMS, A. WILLEY, and Bro. P. J. SHELDON.

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7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

After singing, the Scriptures were read, and prayer was offered by Rev. E. S. WILLIAMS.

Sermon by Rev. CHRISTOPHER CUSHING, of Boston. Text—Luke 8: 45, 46. Subject—The difference between the touch of the world and the touch of faith.

After preaching, prayer by Rev. H. H. BENSON, of Beloit, Wisconsin.

Singing,—

"My faith looks up to Thee."

Conference was then called to order by the Moderator.

The reports from churches were resumed and completed.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary was then read. (See Appendix.)

Rev. R. HALL, H. M. Agent, gave a brief sketch of his connection with the churches of Minnesota, telling how, under the fostering care of the A. H. M. Society, they had grown from two to seventy, and that during the past year they have received from that Society, $12,500. He gave a general survey of the field, and asked the earnest co-operation of all members of Conference, in helping to supply the destitute fields with the regular preaching of the gospel.

Prof. J. L. NOYES, Sup't of the State Asylum for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, Moderator, made a brief and touching appeal in behalf of the unfortunate ones in our State, who, without special and systematic teaching, are forever shut out, by nature, from a knowledge of God's word, and the way of salvation.

Prof. SECCOMBE moved a vote of thanks to the people of Owatonna for their generous hospitality, and christian kindness, on this occasion; which was unanimously carried, and most happily and feelingly expressed, by the Moderator, in some closing words.

After singing,—

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

and prayer and benediction by Rev. Dr. COE, Conference adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

MONDAY, 8½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Conference met as per adjournment, the Moderator in the chair.

After prayer by Bro. T. FURBER, of Cottage Grove, Conference proceeded to business.

Rev. Mr PACKARD, from the Committee on Home Evangelization, presented the following report and resolutions, which were adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That a Secretary of Evangelization be appointed at this Conference.

2. *Resolved*, That each of the several local Associations elect a District Secretary of Evangelization.

3. *Resolved*, That each of the churches organize for the work, by the appointment of committees for definite work,—this work having reference to specific duties, rather than to defined localities.

As a suggestion to the churches, we propose that in their organization for this work, they appoint

A Recording Secretary.
A Corresponding Secretary.
A Committee on Work.
" " " Benevolent Visitation.
" " " Religious Conversation.
" " " Tracts and Religious Publications.
" " " Social Visitation.
" " " Sabbath Schools.
" " " Statistics.
" " " Religious Meetings.

And that these Corresponding Secretaries of the churches report quarterly to their District Secretaries of Evangelization, and that on the first days of January and July, the District Secretaries report to the State Secretary, who shall present a written report to Conference.

In accordance with this report, a Secretary was elected, viz: Prof. G. CAMPBELL, of the State University, St. Anthony.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary, given last evening, was accepted.

On motion of Rev. A. FULLER, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of forming a State Missionary Society, auxiliary to the A. H. M. Society; and if such an organization be found expedient, to report a Constitution and By-Laws at the next Conference. Also, that this committee, in correspondence with the Secretaries of the Home Missionary Society, make arrangements, as far as possible, for the occasional supply of the feeble churches that are without pastors, and otherwise use their effort to forward the interests of the H. M. work.

Revs. A. FULLER, E. P. DADA and C. C. CRAGIN were appointed that committee.

The following resolution, introduced by REV. E. BROWN, was adopted by a rising vote, viz:

Resolved, That our thanks be tendered to our Moderator, for the prompt, efficient, and gentlemanly manner, in which he has forwarded the business of this Conference.

Also, it was

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to the different Railroad and Stage Companies, who have generously furnished free return tickets from this Conference.

Resolved, That the Scribe of this Conference have our hearty thanks for his faithful and efficient labors.

A short time was spent in prayer and conference, under the lead of Rev. WM. GILL, after which the minutes of the Scribe were read and approved, and Conference adjourned at 10 o'clock, A. M., to meet at Northfield, at 7 o'clock, Thursday evening, October 13, 1870.

J. L. NOYES, *Moderator.*
L. S. GRIGGS, *Rec. Sec'y.*
H. W. PAGE, *Scribe.*

APPENDIX.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT THE NEXT ANNUAL SESSION.

DELEGATES TO OTHER RELIGIOUS BODIES.

(See page 13)

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS AND DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES—E. S. Williams, Scriver and Pierce.

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS—Seccombe, Strong and Fuller.

COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE—Griggs, Pierce and Williamson.

TREASURER OF WIDOWS' & ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY—E. S. Williams.

STATISTICAL SECRETARY—Seccombe.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY—Fuller.

COMMITTEE TO VISIT NORTHFIELD COLLEGE—Revs. E. M. Williams, L. J. White, E. Brown, and Bros. Hudson Wilson and Wm. Cheney.

SECRETARY OF HOME EVANGELIZATION—Campbell.

SECRETARY OF CHURCH ERECTION—Fuller.

COMMITTEE ON THE SABBATH—J. H. Stewart, of Winona, A. N. Stoughton of Owatonna, D. C. Bell, of Minneapolis, Revs. R. Hall, and E. S. Williams.

COMMITTEE ON THE METHOD OF REPORTS FROM CHURCHES—Seccombe, E. M. Williams, and W. B. Dada.

COMMITTEE ON FORMING A STATE MISSIONARY SOCIETY—Fuller, Cragin and E. P. Dada.

COMMITTEES OF MISSIONS IN EACH ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN ASSOCIATION.	A. K. Packard, A. J. Pike, Wm. Leavitt.
CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.	E. J. Hart, E. S. Williams, J. W. Strong.
OWATONNA ASSOCIATION.	E. Brown, A. Morse, L. S. Griggs.
WINONA ASSOCIATION.	H. Willard, A. Fuller.

Applications for aid from the A. H. M. Society, made by any Church, must be endorsed by the Committee of Missions of the Association which includes that Church within its limits, as well as by Rev. R. Hall, the agent for the A. H. M. Society for Minnesota.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

In gathering up and reviewing the results of the last conference year, we cannot fail to recognize, that while we have much cause for confession and humiliation, on account of the coldness of our zeal, and the feebleness of our efforts, in the great work we have had to do, we have yet abundant reason for thanksgiving to God for the favor and blessing he has granted us.

The lives and the health of the brethren in the ministry have been preserved; a good degree of temporal prosperity has been granted to our churches; and harmony and peace have been in our councils.

There have been two new churches received to our Conference, and one has withdrawn and united with the Convention of Wisconsin. Many of our churches have been visited with revival influences, and our list of membership shows an increase of about 200 communicants during the year.

More than usual interest has been manifested in home evangelization, and some of the most encouraging results have attended the efforts of pas-

tors to bring out the working power of all the members of their churches. It is in connection with these efforts, together with the accompanying Sunday School and neighborhood mission work, that the most marked progress of the year has been made. It is especially encouraging to hear from many churches that the labors of laymen in holding prayer meetings, establishing Sunday Schools, and even in conducting preaching services in destitute places, have been so signally blessed, both in the conversion of souls, and in the quickening and strengthening of those who have engaged in this work. Is not this a call to us, that while we pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest, we also employ wisely and well those he has already qualified for that work? And is it not manifestly our duty—is it not a thing in which we may make great progress in this coming year—that we organize our churches mere thoroughly, and urge them more earnestly to individual Christian work?

We have abundant reason for thanksgiving to God for His continued blessing upon our College, that it still has the affection and confidence of our churches, and that it has already accomplished so much for education, and for the cause of Christ in the conversion of souls. Let us remember how great a work is still before us, in giving this institution the place it deserves among the Colleges of our land, and let us unite our sympathies, our prayers, our personal efforts, and our money, till the College shall be an institution worthy the sons of the Pilgrims, and able to meet the full demands of our churches for educational privileges.

There is still upon us the painful sense of the need of some more efficient means of keeping pace, in the matter of church-extension, with the rapid growth of our State in population and wealth. The Home Missionary Society and the Congregational Union are still doing among us their great and beneficent work, and are giving us all the aid we can reasonably expect from our friends at the East. Have we done all we could, as churches and pastors, to supplement and enlarge their work? May it not be that we have confined ourselves too closely to our local interests, and thus failed to give that united moral and material support which we owe to this work? Is it not the special need of the hour, that we so organize and combine our effort, that we may make more progress in the work of diffusing the principles of christian liberty, as represented in our faith and polity, through our young and growing State.

A. FULLER,
Corresponding Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE.

OWATONNA, OCT. 14, 1869.

The Committee on Printing and Finance submit the following report:

Deficiency from last year,	$16 74
Paid Ramaley & Hall for printing 600 copies of minutes,	92 00
" " " circulars,	1 50
" for postage, stationery and expressage,	8 67
" for Railroad fare,	1 00
" bill of Statistical Secretary,	2 66
Total amount paid,	$122 57
Received from forty-nine Churches, six cents per member,	$130 94
Balance on hand,	$8 37

Copies of the minutes, one for every six members, have been sent to nearly all the churches. The account of the Committee, containing all the items, has been audited by H. Goodhue, Jr., Prof. Northfield College.

The Committee recommend that the same plan for raising funds be adopted for the ensuing year, the assessment being reduced to five cents per member.

L. S. GRIGGS, } *Committee.*
WM. CHENEY. }

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF HOME EVANGELIZATION.

The subject of Home Evangelization, which was brought before the Conference definitely, for the first time, last year, is deserving of more attention than those to whom it was entrusted have been able to give it.

The work aimed at is the developing in all the churches of their highest possible efficiency, so that the complete christianization of the communities where they are placed may be speedily looked for.

No church, however prosperous in other directions, has attained the objects for which it exists as a church, till it has done all that it can, to secure the salvation and sanctification of every person who can be better reached by influences from it, than any other church.

Charity calls upon us to contribute to missions abroad, but no church can neglect its immediate home, its own parish, without being recreant to the highest claims of duty. In properly cultivating the field of labor around each local church, there is a call for the full exercise of the gifts and graces of every individual christian.

Every minister ought to acquaint himself with those methods of christian work, which modern experience has shown to have been most blessed of God, in leading men to the knowledge and love of Jesus. These he should make known to the church, with such a presentation of their responsibilities and duties, as to lead them to engage actively in the work of Home Evangelization. Any pastor would be likely to be assisted in this work, by the presence and appeals of one who had made the subject a matter of study, and who should visit the church by request of Conference, and with such authority as it could confer.

It would be well if one person could devote his whole time to the work. Perhaps the American Home Missionary Society might regard it as in harmony with the object for which the Society was instituted, to appoint a State Secretary of Home Evangelization, whose expenses should be met by the Society. In the failure of this, the appointment again of District Secretaries is recommended, who without recompense, save the hope of the good it may do, shall devote to the work such time as they think they can, consistently with their other duties.

HENRY WILLARD.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

OWATONNA, OCT. 15, 1869.

Northfield College has now been in existence for two years, years in which those most interested in its success, have watched with hope the growth of the enterprise, founded on the idea, that, in this comparatively young State, an institution of a denominational character, but yet not sectarian, was necessary, and could be supported. The visits of the Committee have been both profitable and interesting, showing the practical workings of the College, and that the curriculum of its studies was broad enough to give all those who desired, a liberal collegiate education. The Committee, during their visits, deemed many things praiseworthy, and saw nothing which demanded censure.

In speaking of the hopes centered in the College, it would not be just or reasonable to expect wonderful things, even in the second year of its existence. We could not expect to see it leap at once into a full-grown

manhood, or take on that grand and substantial look which older Colleges have gained; we could not expect to see its rooms at once crowded with the youth of our State, eager to receive the instruction imparted. Time must do all these things, aided by the active, energetic efforts of its friends, and the lovers of education in our churches. We are free to acknowledge, that with the limited means in its possession, the College has done well, and made good progress in those qualities so essentially necessary to its final success.

We believe that in the prudence, wisdom and good judgment exercised by the officers and teachers of the College, it ranks well among other similar institutions. Colleges like nations have histories; and when we read the histories of other Colleges, the thought forces itself upon us, joined with the hope, that though years of dependence and, as the result of this, years of impaired usefulness may intervene, still its future is hopeful and promising.

It could not be expected that, with the insufficiency of the funds to be expended the greatest amount of convenience could be procured; yet with the means at hand, the officers have been enabled to secure a comparative degree of comfort, and though not as successful in all things as they fondly hoped and anticipated they would be, yet the work of making the College a success has nobly progressed.

It might seem unnecessary to speak of the Professors, since the public are not unacquainted with them, still it seems appropriate that a word of praise should be meted out to them. Of scholarly minds, faithful in their training, energetic in their system of teaching, they have developed in the minds of the students, a thirst for knowledge, a desire for thoroughness in their studies, and a laudable ambition to excel as students.

All this was plainly shown in the examinations and recitations, during which the Committee noticed that display was not the object sought. The way the questions were answered, the natural and easy manner in which the various subjects were handled, indicated thought, system, and working minds on the part of the students. The mutual confidence which seemed to exist between teachers and students, was very gratifying to the Committee.

It was hoped that, during the year, the building proposed would be erected, so that there might be better accommodations for the students, as the building now occupied, although in a good degree meeting the wants of the College, is yet inadequate for the prospective needs of such an institution. But that very important item, so necessary to the carrying out of noble ideas and projects, funds, was wanting. True the foundations were laid, and the corner stone was placed in its proper position with appropriate ceremonies, yet there the structure stopped in its upward progress

That this building be completed, and thus increased facilities be made ready for prosecuting the work of the College, seems imperatively necessary.

To the accomplishment of this object, let the friends of the College bend their energies. As one means for accomplishing this, the Trustees at their last annual meeting appointed the senior Professor, Rev. C. Seccombe, to act as canvasser in this State, to collect funds, and receive donations and subscriptions for the College, to lay its wants before the churches, to ask their aid, and to secure students for the institution. This plan meets the hearty approval of the Committee, more especially as the gentleman appointed was so successful during his first canvass for the College. We trust that the members of our churches will give as God has prospered them, feeling that in so doing they are giving to God.

A second point of much importance has been reached, namely, the appointment of an accomplished christian lady of large experience as a teacher, to instruct and have in especial charge the young ladies who may become members of the College. Parents and friends may rest assured, that their daughters will be faithfully watched over, and tenderly cared for. The Committee would note with pleasure, that during the year, through the active efforts of the teachers, a reading room has been opened for the benefit of the students, and supplied with a good number of both secular and religious papers.

In addition to this, through the exertions of Rev. B. A. Dean, and the generosity of the clergymen of the State, a library has been commenced. Let this be remembered by all, so that there may be additions to it from time to time, until it becomes large and attractive. We were glad to notice also that a cabinet, and a philosophical and chemical apparatus are being collected, which will become a source of great advantage in the study of the natural sciences. The cleanliness of the College building, and the neatness observable in the College grounds, showed great care and attention, for which Rev. N. H. Pierce, who so worthily performs the duties of the boarding department of the College, deserves much credit.

The Committee think that the facilities which Northfield College affords for securing a thorough education, are not well enough known, even in our own State, for there are those who would patronize a home institution did they fully understand its character, who send their sons and daughters to other States to be educated. This should not be the case, the friends of the College must endeavor to make it known. Unless this is done, complaints that the College is not patronized would be unreasonable, and without force. And in this connection the Committee would suggest, that the officers of the College make its existence and facilities known to the public, through the medium of advertising.

We believe that to secure a full measure of success in a College as well as in other enterprises, a go-ahead spirit is necessary, that a little of the

"Young America" element should be incorporated into, and diffused through the body politic. We live in an age when life and energy must be thrown into any enterprise to have it succeed.

Finally, the College, the teachers, and all that pertain to it in any capacity, need the prayers of the Church, that God would overshadow it and them with His presence, and make them faithful and efficient in carrying forward the work allotted to them. And may the entire membership of our churches be stirred up by way of remembrance to know that "Faith without works is dead," and that while faith in the ultimate success of the College is well, contributions of the needful to make it a success, are equally necessary. Let the College be cared for as the offspring of the Church, and great endeavors be put forth to relieve it from its present embarrassment, and to set it in a large place, always remembering its public days, examinations, and commencement exercises.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. TAYLOR,
PROF. PURMORT.
REV. J. G. D. STEARNS. } *Committee.*
REV. L. S. GRIGGS,
REV. E. J. HART.

NAMES OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

St. Paul—Rev. R. Hall, President.
Northfield—H. Scriver, J. H. Spencer, M. W. Skinner, and Rev. C. Seccombe.
Minneapolis—D. C. Bell.
Cottage Grove—S. W. Furber.
Faribault=Rev. J. W. Strong, J. L. Noyes.
Anoka—Rev. A. K. Packard.
Rochester—Rev. A. Fuller.
West Eau Claire, Wis.—Rev. George Spaulding.
Winona—Rev. David Andrews.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

OWATONNA, Oct. 16, 1869.

Reported to Conference at Austin,	$221 42
Advance Stock,	100 00
Received since Conference,	1 25
Collected at Owatonna,	41 00
Total,	$363 67

EDWIN S. WILLIAMS.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1869.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	MINISTERS.	Begun Labor	Condition Sept. 1, 1869. Members. Males.	Females.	Total	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Add'ns. Profess'n	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Expelled	Letter	Total.	Bapt. Adults	Infants.	S. S. Bib. Class	Ben. Contribut.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66	6	14	20	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	50	5.00	
Alexandria	Dec. 14, '67.	Reuben Everts	Sept. 1, '69.	3	10	13	2	1	4	5	0	0	3	3	0	0	Un.	11.25	
Anoka	May 6, '55..	A. K. Packard	March 9' '60	22	38	60	4	3	4	7	0	2	4	6	0	3	....	.....	
Austin	July 6, '57...	E. M. Williams	Jan. 1, '69.	23	34	57	2	1	8	9	1	0	0	1	1	1	125	70.88	Church Dedicated.
Bear Valley	May 1, '68..	Unsupplied															....	.....	
Beaver	March 4, '68	H. Willard	May 1, '67	3	9	12	2	1	0	1	0	1	2	3	0	0	Un.	6.00	
Bristol (Welsh)	April 27, '67	J. A. Jones															....	.....	
Butternut Val(Welsh	'57	P. Peregrine	April 1. '68.	14	18	32	0	3	4	7	0	0	5	5	8	0	35	.....	
Cannon Falls	August '56...	E. W. Merrill	Sept. 12, '67	13	21	34	6	4	3	7	0	0	1	1	0	0	70	14.00	
Chain Lake Center.	May 24, '64	John C. Strong	Feb. 20, '68.	9	9	18	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	.....	
Claremont	April '60....	C. Shedd	April '60.	9	12	21	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	.....	
Clearwater	April 20, '59	J. G. D. Stearns	April 19, '68	21	48	69	15	1	4	5	2	0	1	3	0	4	60	105.00	
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, '58	E. J. Hart	Nov. 1; '67..	27	36	63	11	7	4	11	0	0	3	3	2	3	53	82.87	
Elgin	April 10, '58	P. Litts	Nov. 1, '66..	19	19	38	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	75	27.25	Church Lot Secured.
Exc. & Chanhassen,	July 17, '53.	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55.	39	54	93	11	0	3	3	3	0	0	3	0	0	100	104.25	
Faribault, 1st Ch.	Dec. 20, '55.	E Gale	April 1. '66.	51	66	117	26	3	8	11	2	0	7	9	1	6	180	241.02	
" Plymouth "	Jan. 26, '66.	James W. Strong	Jan. 26, '66.	42	72	114	14	8	13	21	2	0	6	8	5	0	208	431.71	Church Ed. completed
Fairmount	May 23, '68.	Unsupplied		5	9	14	0	2	3	5	0	2	0	2	0	0	....	.....	[& Ded., cost $17,000.
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57	S. H. Kellogg															....	.....	No Report.
Granville	July 4, '69..	E. W. Merrill	1867	3	6	9	0	6	3	9	0	0	0	0	2	0	50	.....	
Grove Lake	1867	A. C. Lathrop	June '69.	4	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40	7.00	
Guilford	April '60..	E. M. Williams	'68	2	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Un.	.....	
Hamilton	June 28, '60	K. S. Armstrong	Jan. 1, '69...	16	23	39	2	2	4	6	1	0	2	3	1	1	140	.....	
Hebron	Sept. 10, '64	P. Peregrine	April 1, '68.	25	20	45	3										80	.....	
High Forest	June 21, '60	Unsupplied		9	16	25	6	10	3	13	0	0	0	0	3	0	..	.....	
Judson	July 11, '69.	P. Peregrine.	March 1, '69	7	4	11	0	6	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	20	.....	
Lake City	Aug. '56	W. B. Dada	Dec. 1, '67..	39	57	96	15	2	10	12	1	5	5	11	1	0	120	255.00	
Lakeland	May 6, '58	A. D. Roe	July 1, '66	8	12	20	8	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	30	17.00	
Lansing	July 19, '67.	Unsupplied		7	18	25	1	3	2	5	0	0	4	4	2	0	Un.	40.00	
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57	G. Brent	March '61..	4	8	12	1	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	12.00	
Merton	July 11, '69.	(See Remarks)		10	14	24	0	5	19	24	0	0	0	0	3	0	..	.....	Supplied by neighbor'g.
Mantorville	Mar. 21; '58	N. W. Grover	July 1, '68..	13	23	36	7	0	7	7	0	0	3	3	0	3	75	80.35	[Pastor.
Marine	Feb. 8, '58..	Unsupplied		3	14	17	0	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	2	6	70	41.00	

Maseppa	May 19, '60.	F. P. Dada	Nov. 22, '68	5	22	27	1	2	8	10	0	0	0	0	1	1		
Medford	Oct. 25, '56.	E. Brown	Jan. 1. '69..	15	23	38	1	5	5	10	1	0	4	5	1	0	60	100.00
Minneapolis, Plym.	April 28, '57	Henry A. Stimson		100	145	245	26	9	20	29	8	0	22	25	5	4	325	874.50
" Vine St.	Oct. 14, '67.	Wm. Leavitt	May 17, '67.	14	18	32	0	7	4	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	28.50
Monticello	March 8, '56	O. M. Smith	Oct. 1. '69..	18	26	44	6	8	0	8	1	0	2	3	5	1	75	48.52
Nevada	May '68	A. Morse	Jan. '69....	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	
Northfield	Aug. 30, '56	E S. Williams	Mar. 26, '64	81	118	199	11	12	19	31	2	0	5	7	4	4		
Orono	May 11, '61.	Unsupplied																No Report.
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57.	C. C. Cragin	Aug. 22, '69	40	72	112	9	9	8	17	0	1	18	19	5	5	120	155.68 New Church Dedicated.
Painesville	July 29, '66.	Unsupplied		8	8	16	0	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	27.00
Plainview	Oct. 9, '67...	H. Willard	Sept. 1, '68.	10	23	33	5	4	3	7	0	0	10	10	2	3	55	75.00
Prairieville East	May 18, '60.	L. C. Gilbert	March, '66.	13	13	26	5	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	29.31
Prescott, Wis.		Unsupplied																No Report.
Princeton	July '56	Unsupplied																No Report.
Quincy	May '63	J. E. Burbank	Mar. 22, '69	11	16	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
River Falls, Wis.	Feb. 3, '55..	Wm Gill	Nov. 1, '62..	30	78	108	8	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	150	New Ch. blown down.
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58..	A. Fuller	Nov. 18, '66.	41	70	111	18	11	18	29	1	0	18	14	4	3	150	173 00
Rushford	May 12, '60.	W. W. Snell	May 18, '55.	7	21	28	2	1	2	3	0	0	4	4	1	3	75	14.70
Saratoga	July 25, '56	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66															No Report.
Sauk Center	Jan. 20, '67.	A. J. Pike	Sept. 12, '68	9	13	22	6	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	45	33.00
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 28, '55.	S. Hall	Sept. '54..	6	6	12	1	0	3	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	50	35.00
Smithfield	March 5' '68	H. Willard	May 1, '67 .	4	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Un.	30.00
Somerset	Nov 18, '66	J. B. Ladd	Oct. 15, '68.	13	8	21	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	40	
Spring Valley	May 24, '56.	Unsupplied		23	21	43	8	1	2	3	0	0	5	5	0	0	60	51.20
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, 51.	Unsupplied		26	54	80	17	8	11	19	2	0	6	8	5	1	80	46.80
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '59.	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66.															No Report.
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64	James Tompkins	July 18, '69.	9	9	18	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	30	50.00
St. Paul	June 15, '58	L. J. White	Oct. '66....	33	57	90	21	7	18	25	0	0	4	4	2	2		
Sterling	Aug. '57	N. A. Hunt	Mar. 1, '64.															No Reporr.
Vernon Center	Oct. 28, '64	N. A. Hunt	Feb. '64 ..															No Report.
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57.	S. A. Vandyke	June 1, '69..	27	44	71	15	0	3	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	140	
Waseca	Jan. 16, '68.	E. H. Alden	Nov. '68...	14	18	27	0	2	12	14	0	0	1	1	1	4	Un.	45.00 Commenced Building.
Wasioja	June '58	O. Shedd	June '58....	3	11	14	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	0	0	Un.	
Winnebago City	May 28, 59.	J. D. Todd	April 1, '69.	6	13	19	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	Un	Much encouraged,
Winona	Dec. 10, '54.	Unsupplied		57	110	167	20	7	10	17	2	0	11	13	4	3	325	300.00
Woodland Mills	July 7, '67..	J. D. Todd	April 1, '69.	7	10	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Very harmonious.
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	Unsupplied		49	81	90	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	162.00

SUMMARY.

Whole number of Churches 70; of which two are in Wisconsin. Whole membership 2905; Males 1188, Females 1757; non-residents, 324. Whole number of additions 451; to-wit: 185 on profession; 266 by letter. Adult baptisms, 79; Infant baptisms, 72. Number of Sunday School and Bible Class Scholars, 3786. Benevolent contributions $3213,79.

NOTE.—Nothing is credited to the Churches that failed to report.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER FOR 1869.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation	P. O. Address.	Association.
Alden, E. H	Apr. 12, '64.	Acting Pastor....	Waseca	Owatonna.
Andrews, D	Jan. 29, '40.	Without charge.	Winona	Winona.
Armstrong, R. S	Oct. 6, '56...	Acting Pastor...	Hamilton	Winona.
Barnes, J. R	1838	Without charge.	Winona	Winona.
Brown, Edward	Jan. 12, '53..	Acting Pastor...	Medford	Owatonna.
Burbank, J. E	Apr. 12, '58 .	" "	Little Valley	Winona.
Campbell, Gabriel..	Oct. 27, '68 .	Prof. State Un..	St. Anthony	Northern Minn.
Cragin, C. C	Licentiate...	Acting Pastor...	Owatonna	Aurora, Ill.
Dada, E. P		" "	Mazeppa	
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56....	" "	Lake City	Winona.
Everts, Reuben	Sep. 30, '58..	" "	Alexandria	Northern Minn.
Fuller, A	Oct. 2, '62..	Pastor	Rochester	Winona.
Gale, Edmund,	Dec 24, '56..	Acting Pastor.	Faribault	Central Minn.
Galpin, Charles	Sept '44.	Without charge.	Excelsior	Northern Minn.
Gilbert, L. C	July 16, '40..	Acting Pastor...	East Prairieville	Central "
Gill, William	May 26, '63..	Pastor	River Falls, Wis	" "
Griggs, L S	June 23, '64..	Without charge.	Owatonna	Owatonna.
Grover, N. W	Sept. 3, '68..	Acting Pastor...	Mantorville	"
Hall, E	Aug. 8, '50...	Agt. A. H. M. S	St. Paul	Central Minn.
Hall, S	June, '31	Acting Pastor...	Sauk Rapids	Northern "
Hart, E. J	Jan. 2, '56....	" "	Cottage Grove	Central "
Hunt, N. A	1846	" "	Vernon Center	" "
Kellogg, S. H		" "	Glencoe	" "
Lathrop, A. C	1843	" "	Glenwood	Northern Minn.
Litts, Palmer	Jan. 24, '65...	" "	Elgin	Winona.
Leavitt, Wm	Jan. 27, '64..	" "	Minneapolis	Northern Minn.
Merrill, E. W	April 5, '64...	" "	Cannon Falls	Central "
Miles, G. H	1860	" "	St. Charles	Winona.
Morse, Alfred	June 7, '47...	" "	Austin	Owatonna.
Packard, A. K	Dec. 16, '51...	Pastor	Anoka	Northern Minn.
Peregrine, Philip.	Mar. 10, '61..	Acting Pastor...	Judson,	Welsh of Penn.
Pierce, N H	1861	Asso'd w. N. Col.	Northfield	Central Minn.
Pike, A. J	1859	Acting Pastor...	Sauk Centre	Northern "
Roe, A. D	Feb. 5, '67. .	" "	Afton	Central Minn.
Seccombe, Charles..	Aug. 8, '50...	Sen. Prof. N. Col.	Northfield	" "
Shedd, Charles	March, '42....	Acting Pastor...	Wasioja	Owatonna.
Sheldon, C. B	Oct. 9, '51 ...	" "	Excelsior	Northern Minn.
Smith, O. M	Feb. 25, '63..	" "	Monticello	WyomingConf. NY
Snell, W. W	Oct. 16, '59..	" "	Rushford	Winona.
Stearns, J. G. D	May 10, '43..	" "	Clearwater	Northern Minn.
Stimson, H. A		" "	Minneapolis	
Strong, James W..	Sept. 23, '63.	Pastor	Faribault	Central "
Strong, John C	Dec. 16, '46..	Acting Pastor...	Chain Lake Centre..	Owatonna.
Teele, Edwin	Oct. 18, '52..	Without charge.	Bristol Centre	" [Wis.
Todd, J. D	Jan. '60.	Acting Pastor...	Winnebago City	Beloit Dist. Conf,
Tompkins, J		" "	St. Cloud	Central Ill.
Twitchell, Royal	Jan. 12, '42...	Without charge.	Kingston	Northern Minn.
Vandyke, S. A		Acting Pastor....	Wabashaw	Cent. East Ill.
White, L. J	June '58..	" "	St. Paul	Central Minn.
Willard, Henry	Oct. 20, '58..	" "	Plainview	Winona.
Williams, E. M	Feb. 25, '69..	" "	Austin	Owatonna.
Williams, E. S	June 10, '64..	Pastor	Northfield	Central Minn.
Williams, J. N	July, '47.....	Without charge.	Lake City	Winona.

SUMMARY.

Pastors	5
Acting Pastors	37
Agent of the A. H. M. Society	1
Associated with Northfield College	2
Associated with State University	1
Without charge	7
Total	53

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.		Place of Meeting.	Moderator.	Recording Secretary	Corresponding Sec'y	Statistical Sec'y.	Preacher and Text.
October 24, 1856.		St. Anthony.....	Rev. S. Hall	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. C. Seccombe .		Rev. W. R. Stevens..... John 1:4
Annual Meeting on the SECOND THURSDAY of October, each year.	1 1857	Prescott, Wis.....	Rev. L. Armsby	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. C. Seccombe..		Rev. C. B. Sheldon.....2 Cor. 4:7
	2 1858	Faribault.....	Rev. D. Andrews..	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. C. Seccombe..	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. R. Hall.....Rev. 11:15
	3 1859	Winona	Rev. C. Seccombe..	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. L. Armsby.....Rev. 8:18
	4 1860	St. Paul.....	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Andrews.....Is. 55:10, 11
	5 1861	Anoka	Rev. O. A. Thomas.	Rev. C. B. Sheldon.	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. S. Fiske..... Phil. 4:6
	6 1862	Northfield.....	Rev. C. Shedd.....	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Shedd..... 2 Thes. 2:13
	7 1863	Lake City.....	Rev. W. R. Stevens	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. J. W. Miller....Jn. 17:20, 21
	8 1864	Rochester	Bro. C. M. Goodsell.	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Seccombe.....Prov. 24:10
	9 1865	Minneapolis	Bro. R. G. Lincoln.	Rev. J. F. Dudley..	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Burt.....Eph. 2:1
	10 1866	Faribault	Bro. W. J. Copp...	Rev. J. F. Dudley..	Rev. D. Burt.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. B. Smith.....Matt. 23:8
	11 1867	St. Cloud .. ,....	Rev. J. W. Strong..	Rev. J. F. Dudley..	Rev. D. Burt... ...	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. E. J. Hart....Luke 19:11, 27
	12 1868	Austin	Bro. S. W. Furber..	Rev. L. S. Griggs...	Rev. A. Fuller.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. Fuller.Job 40:3,4, & 42:5, 6
	13 1869	Owatonna.....	Bro. J. L. Noyes....	Rev. L. S. Griggs...	Rev. A. Fuller.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. E. Gale.....John 4:22, 1 c

HISTORICAL SUMMARY, (Continued.)

Annual Meeting on the SECOND THURSDAY Of October of each Year.	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removal.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommun'd			Adult.	Infant.		
1856	8	9											
1857	16	16											
1858	41	27	137...	267...	5...	40...	0...	1037...	71...	42...	41...	1116....	$ 966 58
1859	51	36	179...	233...	13...	66...	1...	1446...	99...	75...	95...	1841....	725 81
1860	63	43	185...	201...	19...	140...	3...	1630...	180...	72...	90...	1868....	821 90
1861	64	46	90...	122...	12...	91...	12...	1589...	169...	26...	66...	1841....	1103 92
1862	61	41	87...	105...	16...	48...	7...	1514...	255...	16...	60...	1843....	730 36
1863	59	45	118...	125...	28...	70...	2...	1877...	297...	35...	63...	1244....	1029 14
1864	68	47	255...	498...	33...	109...	3...	2140...	314...	118...	85...	2787....	2644 66
1865	64	47	185...	169...	28...	107...	7...	2465...	324...	77...	71...	2623....	3062 56
1866	66	52	156...	236...	33...	169...	5...	2569...	281...	68...	71...	2880....	3638 26
1867	71	55	300...	333...	31...	174...	6...	2925...	255...	134...	75...	3419....	2798 54
1868	70	55	185...	221...	28...	174...	4...	2865...	265...	86...	76...	3820....	3004 16
1869	70	53	185...	266...	28...	159...	11...	2905...	324...	79...	72...	3786....	3213 79

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws; each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at seven o'clock, P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual Meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and

all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Northfield College, and report at the next meeting.

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1870

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL

Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD AT NORTHFIELD, OCTOBER 13-17, 1870.

MINNEAPOLIS:
Tribune Printing Company.
1870.

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE

OF MINNESOTA.

NORTHFIELD, MINN., October 13th, 1870.

The ministers and delegates from the churches composing the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, assembled for the Fourteenth Annual Session, at Northfield, Thursday evening, October 13th, 1870.

The introductory service was held in the First Congregational Church, at 7½ o'clock. Sermon by Rev. W. B. Dada, of Lake City, from Mark iv: 28, last clause; subject: "*The Spiritual Law of Development.*

The Conference was called to order by the chairman of Business Committee; and Prof. C. Seccombe was chosen temporary Moderator; and Rev. H. Willard temporary Clerk.

The Representatives of the Churches were then enrolled, and the Conference permanently organized by the election of R. J. Baldwin, of Minneapolis, Moderator, and Rev. James Tompkins, of St. Anthony, Scribe.

The roll, as finally corrected, stood as follows:

Churches Represented.	*Ministers.*	*Delegates.*
Afton	E. H. Alden	Mrs. Charles Fay.
Anoka	A. K. Packard	
Austin	E. M. Williams	
Alexandria	R. Everts	
Beaver	H. Willard	
Cannon Falls	E. W. Merrill	
Claremont	C. Shedd	
Clearwater	J. G. D. Stearns	N. Walker.
Cottage Grove	E. J. Hart	
Chanhassen & Excelsior	C. B. Sheldon	
Elgin	[G. T. Holcombe]	C. W. Dodge.
Faribault 1st Church	A. Gale	R. A. Mott.
Faribault Plymouth ch.	J. W. Strong	C. Russell.
Granville	E. W. Merril	
Glenwood	A. C. Lathrop	
Glencoe	S. H. Kellogg	
Guilford	E. M. Williams	
Hamilton	R. S. Armstrong	
Lake City	W. B. Dada	
Lakeland	E. H. Alden	
Lansing		
Little Falls	W. A. Cutler	[D. M. Evans.]
Mantorville	N. W. Grover	
Mazeppa	E. P. Dada	[W. W. Payne.]
Medford	E. Brown	[George W. Allen.]
Merton	L. C. Gilbert	[C. Beynon.]
Minneapolis, Plym'h ch.	H. A. Stimson	R. J. Baldwin.
Minneapolis, Vine-st ch.	Prescott Fay	
Mankato	C. H. Merrill	Geo. M. Gage.
Marine Mills	Wm. Weld	
Mouticello	O. M. Smith	
Mower City	Geo. B. Nutting	
Nevada	A. Morse	
Northfield	M. A. Munson	J. C. Cooper.
Owatonna	C. C. Cragin	J. A Spellman.
Plainview	H. Willard	R. C. Stillman.
Prairieville, East	L. C. Gilbert	T. C. Adams.
Prescott, Wis		W. J. Copp.
Princeton	C. A Hampton	
River Falls, Wis	William Gill	J. K. Currier.
Rochester	A. Fuller	
Sauk Centre	A. J. Pike	
Smithfield	H. Willard	
Spring Valley	Palmer Litts	H. S. Hart.
St. Anthony	J. Tompkins	L. W. Campbell.
St. Paul	L. J. White	S. S. Taylor.
Waseca	T. A. Wardsworth	W. H. Vinton.
Wasioja	C. Shedd	
Winona		Geo. W. Gregory.
Zumbrota	S. H. Barteau	A. Barrett.

Rev. R. Hall, State Agent for A. H. M. Society.
Prof. C. Secombe, Northfield.
Rev. N. H. Pierce, Northfield.
Rev. A. Willey, Northfield.
Rev. W. W. Norton, New Richmond, Wis.
Rev. E. S. Williams, Andover, Mass.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. A. H. Clapp, D. D., Sec. A. H. M. Society, N. Y.
Rev. W. Barrows, D. D., Sec. Cong. Pub. Society, Boston.
Rev. Bay Palmer, D. D., Sec. American Congregational Union, N. Y.
Rev. S. J. Humphrey, Dist. Sec. A. B. C. F. M., Chicago.
Pres. J. W. Healy, Delegate Gen. Cong. Conference, Louisiana.
Rev. Lucien Farnham, Gen. Assoc., Illinois.
Rev. Wm. W. Rork, Delegate from M. E. Conference, Minnesota.
Rev. T. K. Peters, Delegate from Baptist Convention, Minnesota.
Rev. J. K. Greene, Miss. A. B. C. F. M. Broosa, Turkey.
Rev. J. M. Martin, M. E. Church, Northfield.
Rev. J. F. Wilcox, Baptist Church, Northfield.
Rev. W. J. Cleland, U. P Church, Minnesota.
Rev. W. S. Colton, Connecticut.

After prayer, the Conference adjourned to meet next morning at 8½ o'clock.

FRIDAY, October 14th, 8½ o'clock A. M.

The Conference met, and spent a half hour in devotional exercises, led by Rev. C. C. Cragin, of Owatonna.

The Moderator then called the Conference to order, and requested Rev. E. S. Williams to lead in prayer. The Business Committee made a report of an order of business, which was accepted and adopted, and which is indicated in the following minutes.

The Moderator appointed a Nominating Committee, consisting of Revs. L. J. White and C. C. Cragin, and Brother L. W. Campbell.

The resignation of the Recording Secretary, Rev. L. S. Griggs, was presented, and accepted; and Rev. H. A. Stimson, of Minneapolis, was elected to fill the office.

The resignation of the Treasurer was also presented, and was accepted. On motion of Rev. E. S. Williams, the Scribe was instructed to cast the ballot for the Conference in favor of Rev. H. A. Stimson for Treasurer. The ballot was accordingly cast, and he was declared elected.

The honorary members reported above were formally received by the Conference.

A half hour was spent in receiving reports from delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

The Committee on Printing and Finance made a report, (see Appendix "A") which was referred to the Auditor.

The report of the Treasurer of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society was presented, and referred to the Auditor.

The Committee on Nominations made the following report which was adopted:

Committee on Correspondence with Other Religious Bodies—Revs. Edmund Gale and Prescott Fay, and Brother George W. Gregory.

Committee on Resolutions—Revs. A. Fuller and E. J. Hart, and Brother Wm. J. Copp.

Committee on Printing and Finance—Revs. H. A. Stimson and N. H. Pierce, and Brother J. C. Cooper.

Committee to Visit Northfield College—Revs. T. A. Wadsworth, W. B. Dada and James Tompkins, and Brethren R. J. Baldwin and George M. Gage.

Committee on Place and Preacher for Next Meeting—Revs. E. Brown and A. K. Packard, and Brother S. S. Taylor.

Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises for Next Meeting—Revs. James Tompkins, and C. Shedd, and Brother L. W. Campbell.

Committee on Business—Revs. E. M. Williams, S. H. Barteau and William Gill.

On motion of Rev. A. Fuller, a committee of three was appointed to examine into the condition of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, and report during this session of Conference. Revs. E. S. Williams and C. Secombe, and Brother C. Russell were appointed that committee.

At ten o'clock, a paper on "*Church Extension, and the duty of Ministers and Churches in regard to it*," was read by Rev. C. Brown, of Medford. Rev. J. G. D. Stearns, of Clearwater, and Rev. Dr. Clapp, of New York, followed with addresses on the same subject.

The Committee appointed at last session, to take into consideration the expediency of forming a State Home Missionary Society, auxiliary to the American Home Missionary Society of New York, made a report which was discussed at considerable length, and was laid on the table for future action; and the Conference took a recess until two o'clock, P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Conference was called to order, and opened by prayer by Rev. Prescott Fay.

The Committee to Visit Northfield College reported. Their report was accepted and adopted. (See Appendix "B.")

Petitions of Churches for membership in this Conference were presented, and referred to a committee appointed for that purpose, consisting of Revs. R. Hall, A. Morse, and E. W. Merrill.

The Committee with reference to the condition of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, reported. Report adopted.

Rev. E. S. Williams resigned as Treasurer, and Rev. E. M. Williams was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Rev. A. K. Packard, President of the Board of Trustees, made a statement of facts concerning the condition and prospects of the College; setting forth the unanimity of the Board in the in the election of a College President, and their enthusiasm at his final acceptance of the office. He then called out the new President, Rev. James W. Strong, who responded in a brief but earnest and pointed address.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were adopted:

1st. That the action of the Trustees of Northfield College in the election of Rev. James W. Strong to the Presidency of the College, meets our hearty approbation.

2d. That we recognize the good hand of God in opening the way and inclining the heart of Rev. J. W. Strong to accept the Presidency of the College; and that we pledge him and his associates, our sympathy, our prayers, and our earnest co-operation.

3d. That we recommend the observance by all our churches of the day of prayer for colleges—the last Thursday in February—and that we will especially remember our own College on that day.

4th. That we feel the importance of enlisting every member of every Church connected with this conference in systematic giving and unceasing prayer for the College.

5th. That for *systematic* giving to the College, we recommend to every member to consecrate two cents a week, or one dollar and four cents a year, to the College. Also that in addition to this, all should from time to time, make special donations.

6th. That we earnestly urge the Ministers and Churches to use all possible means to secure students for the College.

Numerous short addresses were made and pledges of assistance to the College were given, varying in amount from two

dollars ($2.) to six thousand dollars ($6,000), until the sum total amounted to sixteen thousand four hundred and forty-six dollars ($16,446).

According to previous arrangement, the First President of the Board of Trustees, Rev. R. Hall, of St. Paul, was called upon to offer a prayer of installation. The resolutions which had been passed were endorsed by the whole Conference and congregation rising to express their approbation. While standing, Rev. Hall led in a prayer of thanksgiving, especially imploring the Divine blessing and Heavenly wisdom for the new President in all his labors in connection with this Christian College.

The Conference then took a recess until 7½ o'clock, P. M.

7½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Moderator called the Conference to order, and requested Rev. C. Shedd to lead in prayer.

A paper on "*Systematic Benevolence*," was read by Rev. H. A. Stimson. The subject was further discussed by Revs. W. Gill, of River Falls, and S. J. Humphrey, of Chicago.

The topic for the evening, "The Memorial Year," was opened by Rev. W. Barrows, D. D., of Boston. Rev. Lucien Farnham of Illinois, made some statements as to Congregationalism in the early settlement of that State. Others followed with short addresses.

The congregation joined in singing,

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

and the Conference adjourned until eight o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, October 15th, 8 o'clock A. M.

The Conference met and spent three-fourths of an hour in devotional exercises, led by Rev. C. B. Sheldon.

The Moderator then took the chair and called on Rev. L. C. Gilbert to lead in prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The order of exercise being the reception of reports from foreign bodies, the following Brethren were introduced and addresed the Conference:

President J. W. Healy, representing the General Congregational Conference of Louisiana.
Rev. Wm. W. Rork, representing the Gen. M. E. Conference of Minnesota.
Rev. Lucien Farnham, representing the General Association of Illinois.
Rev. W. Barrows, D. D., representing the General Association of Mass.
Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., of General Association of New York.
Rev. T. K. Peters, representing the General Baptist Convention of Minn.
Rev. W. J. Cleland of the U. P. Church, Minnesota.

The Moderator, with a few appropriate words, responded to each one in behalf of this Conference.

A letter was read from Rev. J. U. Parsons, representing the General Congregational Conference of Maine.

A lettter was, also, read from Rev. A. Hastings Ross, of the General Conference of Congregational Churches of Ohio, requesting action by this Conference with reference to the formation of a Nationnl Council, and the appointment of a corresponding committee on that subject. The subject was referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

The Committee on Membership reported in favor of receiving the following Churches:

First Congregational Church of Glenwood.
First Congregational Church of Douglas.
First Congregational Church of Mankato.
First CongregatiInal Church of Mower City.
First Congregational Church of Hutchinson.

The Representatives of Benevolent societies were called, and the following responded:

Rev. S. J. Humphrey, District Secretary of A. B. C. F. M.
Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D., Secretary of American Congregational Union.
President J. W. Healy, for the American Missionary Association.

Resolutions relating to the work of the American Missionary Association among the aboriginies of this country, were presented, and referred to the Committee on Resolutions. The Committee reported them back with some slight alterations, and they were adopted. (See Appendix "C.")

The Committee on Place and Preacher for next meeting reported invitations from St. Anthony, St. Paul, Lake City, Minneapolis, and Anoka. The roll was called, and St. Anthony

chosen as the place for next meeting. Reported for preacher, Rev. L. J. White; alternate, Rev. L. C. Gilbert. Report adopted.

Conference adjourned until afternoon.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Moderator called the Conference to order.

Paayer was offered by Rev. A. Willey.

The Committee on Correspondence with other Religious Bodies reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix "D.")

The Secretary of Church Erection Committee reported. Report accepted.

The Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises reported appointments for the Sabbath. Report adopted. (See Appendix "E.")

Rev. R. Hall, by request, made a statement with reference to the Church at Winnebago City.

Remarks were added by Rev. A. Morse, Rev. Dr. Palmer, Prof. Geo. M. Gage, and others.

On motion of Rev. James Tompkins, the Corresdonding Secretary was instructed to advise, in behalf of this Conference, the Pastor and Church at Winnebago City, to call a large Council of Churches to confer with them in reference to their present difficulties.

On motion of Brother Geo. M. Gage, a committee was appointed to investigate the whole matter relating to the Church at Winnebago City, and report at next Conference; *Provided*, the Church does not call a Council. Revs. R. Hall, A. Fuller, and E. Brown were appointed said committee.

The Statistical Secretary reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix "I.")

The Committee on the Methods of Reports from the Churches made a verbal report to the effect that they could make no definite suggestion.

On motion of Rev. T. A. Wadsworth, the local organizations of Congregational Churches in the State are requested to assume the name "Conference," that they may correspond in name with the State organization: and those churches not associated in local

bodies are requested to form Conferences in which all shall unite.

The following resolution, presented last year by Rev. J. Tompkins, was again presented, and adopted, viz.:

"*Resolved*, That hereafter the verbal reports on the state of religion be made at the local Conferences; that a written abstract be presented by the Scribe at this Conference; and that we dispense with the verbal reports from the particular Churches in this body.

At this point the Moderator signified his desire to withdraw for the remainder of the session, as duties called him home. He was therefore excused, and Prof. George M. Gage was chosen to fill the vacancy.

Rev. W. Barrows, D. D., Secretary of the Congregational Publishing Society, spoke with reference to the work and resources of that Society,

Rev. C. Shedd read a paper on the "Employment of Evangelists."

The Committee on Resolutions reported—The resolutions relating to the Benevolent Soceities, the subjects of Temperance, and Divorce, were adopted. (See Appendix "F.")

The resolution relating to a National Council was discussed for a time, and then laid on the table until 8½ o'clock Monday morning; and the conference took a recess until seven o'clock.

SATURDAY, 7 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Conference, met and was opened with prayer by Rev. N. W. Grover.

The resolutions relating to the organization of a State Home Missionary Society, auxiliary to the A. H. M. Society, were taken from the table, and were discussed at length, nearly all the members participating. The resolutions were rejected.

On motion, Revs. A. Fuller, A. K. Packard and T. A. Wadsworth, were appointed a committee to report with reference to the appointment of a Home Missionary Committee for the State.

The Committee reported as follows:

1st. That the Committee of each local Conference be charged to co-operate with the Superintendent of Missions in securing collections from all the Churches, and in attending to the wants of destitute fields.

2nd. That the Chairman of each of the Committees report to this Conference.

The report was adopted.

The Conference then joined in prayer, and adjourned to attend a social re-union at the College.

SUNDAY, October 16th.

The order of exercises previously adopted by the Conference, (see Appendix "E,") was carried out.

MONDAY, October 17th, 8 o'clock A. M.

Conference met, was call to order by the Moderator *pro tem.*, joined in hymn of praise, and was led in prayer by Rev M. A. Munson.

The Corresponding Secretary reported. Report accepted. (See Appendix "G.")

The order of business for 8½ o'clock was delayed, that the Conference might listen to a communication on the subject of Temperance from the M. E. Conference of Minnesota, presented by their delegate, Rev. Wm. W. Rork. The communication was received and placed on the table for future action.

The order of business was then resumed and the resolution relating to a National Council was taken fron the table and discussed.

Rev. C. Secombe offered a substitute, which was adopted. The resolution as amended was further discussed, and adopted. (See Appendix "H.")

On motion a committee was appointed to correspond with other State organizations, on the expediency of calling a National Council. The committee consisted of the following brethren: Rev. Edward Brown, *Medford;* Rev. A. Fuller, *Rochester;* Rev. William Gill, *River Falls, Wis.*, and Rev. A. K. Packard, *Anoka.*

The communication from the M. E. Conference was taken up, and, in accordance with its request, a Corresponding Committee

on the subject of Temperance was appointed, as follows: Rev. L. J. White, *St. Paul;* Rev. Austin Willey, *Northfield;* Deacon S. S. Taylor, *St. Paul.*

The following resolutions were adopted:

1st. That the thanks of this body are cordially given to its Presiding Officer for the impartial and efficient discharge of his duties; and also to the Scribe for his unremitting and laborious work.

2nd. That the thanks and gratitude of this Conference are given to those Railroad and other Companies which have issued free return tickets to any of its members.

3d. That the Ministers of Christ and Delegates from the Churches composing this Conferenc, do thank all the citizens of Northfield who have received us to their homes and abundant hospitalities.

The thanks of the Conference were also extended to Prof. Gage for his valuable services as Moderator during the close of the session.

The minutes were read, corrected, and approved. The Conference joined in singing, and in a closing prayer, and adjourned to meet at St. Anthony at 7 o'clock, Thursday evening, October 12th, 1871.

R. J. BALDWIN, Moderator.
H. A. STIMSON, Rec, Sec.
JAMES TOMPKINS, Scribe.

APPENDIX.

(A.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRINTING AND FINANCE.

The Committee on Printing and Finance submit the following report:

Paid Ramaley & Hall for printing 600 copies of minutes.....		$95.00
" for printing circulars and return tickets.....		2.50
" for Railroad fare...		3.60
" for postage, stationery, expressage.....		10.94
" P. O. order, and exchange.....		.50
" bill of Statistical Secretary.....		2.50
Total expenditures.....		$115.04
Balance on hand from previous year,.....	$ 8.37	
Rec'd from forty-four churches, five cents per member..	118.95	
Rec'd from Prof. Noyes, for minutes.....	2.00	
		$129.32
Balance on hand.....		$ 14.28

Copies of the minutes, one for every six members, have been sent to every church whose Post Office address was known.

N. H. PIERCE,
L. S. GRIGGS,
N. WILLIAMSON. } Com.

(B.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

The Committee appointed to visit Northfield College respectfully submit the following report:

In compliance with the duty devolving upon the committee some of the members were present once—others twice, and one at each of the examinations.

In regard to the examinations, the Committee are happy to bear testimony to the thoroughness with which they were conducted, and to the ability with which the students acquitted themselves. The visitors were impressed with the fact as a result of these examinations, that the instruction was not in the least superficial, but that its character and method were such as to induce independence of scholarship, and consequently vigorous growth of mind, and hence to make men and women of real culture and power.

We are pleased to endorse and add our witness of high approval to the character of instructors and instruction, paid by the Committee of Visitation last year to Prof. Goodhue and his associate instructors.

Your Committee are enthusiastic in commending the College to the churches and the people of the State, as an institution in which our youth may receive as high and thorough instruction as in any of the older colleges at the East, and that it is not only the duty, but should be esteemed the privilege, of Christian parents in our churches to give it their encouragement, by educating their sons and daughters in it.

The financial condition of the College has not changed materially from that of last year. The churches have not responded as heartily as they should to the earnest appeals of the financial agent of the College, and so the Trustees have been much crippled in their purposes for material enlargement. They have felt compelled to dispense with the services of the financial agent, and otherwise curtail the current expenses of the College.

Your Committee feel, from the facts which have come before them, without entering into any special statement of the finances of the College, that the present is an exceedingly critical juncture in its history, and that its existence depends upon the aid and sympathy which it shall now receive from the churches of the State.

In this exigency, the Committee are happy to state, that the Trustees have elected a man to the Presidency of the College, who not only has the love and esteem of all the churches, but who,

in the opinion of the Committee, is in every way *qualified for the place*, one whom they feel assured, if the churches shall gather about and aid, will carry the College forward, to a real and high success.

L. J. WHITE,
EDWARD BROWN,
WM. CHEENEY,
} Committee.

TRUSTEES OF NORTHFIELD COLLEGE.

Rev. A. K. Packard, President, Anoka.
Hiram Scriven, Esq., Northfield.
Rev. C. Seccombe, Northfield.
D. C. Bell, Esq., Minneapolis.
G. W. Furber, Esq., Cottage Grove.
Rev. James W. Strong, Faribault.
Prof. J. S. Noyes, Faribault.
J. H. Spencer, Esq., Northfield.
M. W. Skinner, Esq., Northfield.
Rev. A. Fuller, Rochester.
Rev. David Andrews, Winona.
Rev. R. Hall, St. Paul.
Rev. E. M. Williams, Austin.

(C.)

RESOLUTIONS RELATIVE TO INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WHEREAS, The past management of Indian affairs in this country, by the Government, has entailed continual and cruel wars, the sacrifice of thousands of human lives and millions of treasure, and prevented the success of any general measure to civilize and Christianize the Indians; therefore,

Resolved, That as a religious body and as individual Christian citizens, we hail with joy the inauguration of a new policy which promises peace and prosperity instead of war and ruin; and that we heartily endorse the action of the President and his advisors, in seeking the co-operation and aid of the Christian organizations of the country, in the Government's efforts for the civilization of the Indians.

Resolved, That we consider the present a great—probably the last—opportunity for Christian men to avert, under God's providence, the destruction of the Indian races.

Resolved, That we will give the American Missionary Association, which has been charged with the responsibility of Indian affairs in this State, our earnest sympathy and hearty co-operation in all practicable ways in this great work.

Resolved, That official copies of these resolutions be prepared and transmitted, one to the President of the United States, one to the Secretary of the Interior, and one to the Recording Secretary of the American Missionary Association.

E. J. HART, Chairman.

(D.)

REPORT OE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Correspondence with other Religious Bodies, report the following delegates for the ensuing year:

To the General Association of	California,	Rev.	A. Fuller.
" " "	Connecticut,	"	E. P. Dada.
" " "	Illinois,	"	E. M. Williams
" " "	Indiana,	"	E. Brown.
" " "	Iowa,	"	H. Willard.
" " "	Kansas,	"	C. B. Sheldon.
" " "	Massachusetts,	"	L. C. Gilbert.
" " "	Michigan,	"	G. H. Miles.
" " "	Nebraska,	"	C. Shedd.
" " "	N. Hampshire,	"	J.G.D.Stearns.
" " "	New Jersey,	"	L. J. White.
" " "	New York,	"	H. A. Stimson.
" " "	Oregon,	"	A. J. Pike.
" " Conference of	Maine,	"	A. Willey.
" " "	Missouri,	"	E. H. Alden.
" " "	Louisiana,	"	J. W. Strong.
" " "	Ohio,	"	E. J. Hart.
" " "	Rhode Island,	"	Palmer Litts.
" " "	Vermont,	"	R. Hall.
" " Convention	Wisconsin,	"	S. H. Barteun.
" Synod of Minnesota,		"	A. Morse.
" Baptist Convention of	Minnesota,	"	Wm. Gill.
" M. E. Conference of	Minnesota,	"	C. H. Merrill.

E. GALE,
PRESCOTT FAY,
GEO. W. GREGORY, } Committee.

(E.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS AND DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE SABBATH.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

11 A. M. sermon, Rev. W. Barrows, D. D.

2 P. M. Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; Rev. Dr. Palmer to break the bread, and Rev. A. Fuller to administer the Cup; assisted by Deacons D. M. Evans, —. Sanborn, R. C. Stillman, and Jas. G. Nind.

4½ P. M. Missionary meeting for children, conducted by Rev. S. J. Humphrey.

7 P. M. Home Missionary Meeting. Topic: *Christian Work in Minnesota;* led by Rev. Dr. Clapp.

COLLEGE CHAPEL.

9 A. M. Home Missionaries' Prayer Meeting; led by Rev. Dr. Clapp.

4 P. M. Prayer and Conference Meeting.

M. E. CHURCH.

10½ A. M. Rev. C. C. Cragin.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

11 A. M. Rev. A. K. Packard.

7 P. M. Rev. L. J. White.

E. S. WILLIAMS,
H. SCRIVER,
N. H. PIERCE,
} Committee.

(F.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

1. That we heartily endorse the business character, aims, and working plans of the Congregational Publishing Society, as presented by Dr. Barrows; and we commend the same to our churches.

2. That we recognize in the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, an effectual instrument for the evangelization of the heathen world; and, in view of the recent withdrawal of the Presbyterian churches generally from its support, we feel called on for increased effort to sustain and increase its work.

3. That we fully believe Christ's salvation to be the only perfect remedy for all existing evils; and witnessing in the crimes and miseries of intemperance, the collossal evil and sin of our land, and Satan's great instrument for the ruin of souls, the churches of this Conference will do all in the power to instruct the people, and especially the children, in the duty and principles of temperance.

4. That as divorce, for other causes than that declared by our Lord, has become alarmingly frequent, thus destroying the sanctity of the marriage bond and dishonoring the commands of God, we believe it to be the duty of every minister of the Gospel to correct this evil by instructing his people, and by endeavoring to induce our State Legislature to conform its acts concerning divorce to the law and teaching of God.

(G.)

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Again we have the privilege of reviewing together the mercies of God to his people, and his faithfulness in answering their prayers and blessing their labors. He has comforted those he has permitted to mourn; He has strengthened those that have been ready to faint, and has given the light of his countenance to those that have walked in darkness, and yet have trusted in him.

There has been but one death among the ministers of our order in the State, Rev. G. K. Clark, of Saratoga. No pestilence has wasted, as no division or strife has weakened our strength; no general calamity has crippled our prosperity; so that while it has been a year of financial stringency, and even of serious embarrassment to some interests, God has given our churches grace and strength to continue their usual work, and even to enlarge their benefactions.

Five churches have been added to our number, four new church edifices have been erected, and several new points have been occupied by occasional preaching or Sunday Schools. Among the events of the year, which we record with special pleasure, is the installation of five pastors of churches. We hail this as a hopeful sign of permanent progress and growth, and an exhibition of unabated love for the old time ministry of the fathers, which God has so highly honored and blessed in the past.

Some of our churches report marked revivals; almost all that have enjoyed regular ministerial labor have had a healthful growth in church members, in attendance on worship and in the Sunday School interest. A few, owing to local causes, have been weakened, but none have become wholly extinct.

Our college has been through a year of peculiar trial. The embarrassment in the business interests of our people has been so great, that the utmost endeavor of the financial agent of the college, secured from the State a subscription of only about $2,300, payable in three yearly installments; besides this some additional subscription was made in Northfield. Under these circumstances the Trustees found it impossible to go on with the new building without incurring a large debt, which they decided not to do. It has even been difficult to make sufficient collections to meet the current expenses of the college. The Trustees have also been disappointed in their efforts to secure a President from abroad.

In all this, we now think, God has been trying our faith and causing us to think more deeply and seriously than ever before,

how much the college is worth to the cause of Christ. He has also permitted us to see in the effort that has been made to sustain the college, how deeply it is fixed in the confidence and affection of our churches.

And now, since we have gathered here, God has given the college a President, who has the confidence of the ministers and churches, and has put it into the hearts of the friends of Christian education at this Conference, to contribute over $16,500 to its fund. To Him be the glory and praise; to us the glad privilege of cheerful and hopeful labor to carry forward this work towards its completion.

The year has, on the whole, been one of marked importance in the history of our cause in the State. May God give us zeal, and courage, and patience to attempt yet greater things for him.

A. FULLER,
Corresponding Secretary.

(H.)

NATIONAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION.

Resolution relating to the organization of a National Council of Congregational Churches:

Resolved, That while we fully believe in an occasional National gathering, when special subjects shall call for it, we do not believe that an organized National Body for regular periodical meetings, is either desirable or safe; yet we heartily agree upon the appointment of a committee to correspond with similar committees of other State organizations on that subject.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1870.

CHURCHES.	Organized.	MINISTERS.	Begun Labor.	Condition Sept. 1, 1870. Members. Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Progress for one year previous. Add'ns. Profess'n	Letter.	Total.	Removals. Death.	Expelled.	Letter.	Total.	Bapt. Adult.	Infant.	S. S. & Bib. Class	Ben. Contribut.	REMARKS.
Afton	June 24, '58	E. H. Alden	April 24, '70	6	16	22	12	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	50	195 00	
Alexandria	Dec. 14, '67	R. Everts	Sept. 1, '69.	6	14	20	1	4	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	....	10 00	
Anoka	May 6, '55..	A. K. Packard	March 9, '60	33	54	87	15	20	9	29	0	0	2	2	3	0	50	60 00	Ch. ded. sub. to col. $45.
Austin	July 6, '57..	E. M. Williams	Jan. 1, '69..	23	44	67	5	10	7	17	1	0	4	5	3	6	120	284 28	Sub. to col. $200.10.
Beaver	March 4, '68	H. Willard	May 1, '67..	3	10	13	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	....	6 00	Sub. to col. $5.25.
Bristol, (Welsh)	April 27, '67	Unsupplied	*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
ButternutVal(W'h)	1857	P. Peregrine	April 1, '68.	6	17	23	1	2	1	3	0	0	4	4	0	4	Un	11 60	
Cannon Falls	Aug. '56 ...	E. W. Merrill	Sept. 12, '67	12	19	31	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	75	.....	Sub. to col. $62.
Chain Lake Centre	May 24, '64	O. P. Champlin	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	No report.
Claremont	April, '60..	C. Shedd	April, '60..	9	11	20	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	....	.....	Am't ben. con. unknown.
Clearwater	April 20, '59	J. G. D. Stearns	April 19, '68	20	46	66	16	1	3	4	1	1	5	7	0	3	60	107 00	Sub. to col. $72.50.
Cottage Grove	Dec. 29, '58.	E. J. Hart	Nov. 1, '67.	28	39	67	7	2	4	6	1	0	0	1	1	5	53	188 15	Sub. to col. $445.
Douglas	Aug. 28, '70	E. W. Merrill	Nov., '69...	4	4	8	0	2	6	8	0	0	0	0	1	1	Un	.....	
Elgin	April 10, '58	G. T. Holcombe	Sep. 1, '70..	11	14	25	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	....	.....	
Ex. & Chanhassen	July 17, '58	C. B. Sheldon	Nov. 18, '55	37	54	91	9	1	11	12	11	1	0	12	0	0	100	83 00	Sub. to col. $51.
Fairmount	May 23, '68	O. P. Champlin	June, '70...	4	7	11	2	1	1	2	0	2	3	5	1	0	Un	.....	
Faribault, 1st Ch	May 31, '56.	E. Gale	April 1, '66	57	78	135	37	20	8	28	2	0	9	11	4	1	200	322 60	
" Plymouth Ch	Jan. 26, '66.	Unsupplied	.....	60	93	153	18	29	19	48	1	0	8	9	14	5	216	433 18	Sub. to col. $173.85.
Glencoe	Oct. 24, '57.	S. H. Kellogg	Sept., '69...	7	12	19	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	50	20 00	
Granville	July 4, '69..	E. W. Merrill	June, '68...	6	12	18	0	5	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	3	Un	.....	Sub. to col. $61.50.
Grove Lake	June, 1867..	A. C. Lathrop	June, 18, '68	5	5	10	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	Un	.....	
Guilford	April, '60...	Unsupplied	.....	3	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	.....	Sub. to col. $34.
Hamilton	June 23, '60	R. S. Armstrong	Jan. 1, '69..	27	27	54	2	8	1	9	0	0	0	0	3	0	120	23 05	
Hebron	Sept. 10, '64	P. Peregrine	April 1, '68.	12	15	27	0	2	0	2	0	4	4	8	0	1	....	12 57	
High Forest	June 21, '60	Unsupplied	.....	8	15	23	6	0	0	0	1	0	5	6	0	0	....	.....	
Judson	July 11, '60	P. Peregrine	March 1, '69	5	7	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	....	2 50	
Lake City	Aug. '56....	W. B Dada	Dec. 1, '67..	39	63	102	10	3	5	8	1	0	3	4	0	0	130	270 00	
Lakeland	May 6, '58..	E. H. Alden	April 24, '70	9	13	22	4	3	0	3	1	0	0	1	3	0	27	27 00	
Lansing	July 19, '67	Unsupplied	... .	8	20	28	3	3	2	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	60	.....	Sub. to col. $35.25.
Lenora	Nov. 11, '57	Unsupplied	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	No report.
Mankato	Aug. 28, '70	C. H. Merrill	Aug. 14, '70	7	8	15	0	14	1	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	.....	
Mantorville	Mar. 21, '58	N. W. Grover	July 1, '68..	13	24	37	7	3	0	3	0	0	2	2	3	0	75	61 20	Sub. to col. $10.
Marine	Feb. 8, '58..	W. M. Weld	.....	2	16	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	.....	

Mazeppa	May 10, '69.	E. P. Dada	Nov. 22, '68	6	21	27	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	75	50	00	
Medford	Oct. 25, '56.	E. Brown	Jan. 1, '68.	18	24	42	2	2	6	8	4	0	2	6	1	0	Un	55	00	Pastor instilled.
Merton	July 11, '69	L. C. Gilbert		11	14	25	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	96	4	00	Sub. to col. $33. [& ded.
Minneapolis, Plym	April 28, '57	H. A. Stimson	Dec. 1, '69.	126	172	298	29	25	39	64	1	0	13	14	13	8	350	582	34	Past'r ins. Ms. Chap. b'lt
" Vine St.	Oct. 14, '67.	Prescott Fay	Nov., '69.	14	24	38	2	4	3	7	0	0	2	2	1	8	112	73	00	Chap. rep. sub. to col. $68.
Monticello	March 8, '56	O. M. Smith	Oct. 1, '69.	20	27	47	7	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	....	50	00	Sub. to col. $30.
Nevada	May, '68.	A. Morse	Jan., '69	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	21	15	Sub. to col. $65 50.
Northfield	Aug. 30, '56	M. A. Munson	June 1, '70.	92	124	216	24	24	4	28	2	4	6	12	3	4	100	148	75	Sub. col. l'ge not dis. from
Orono	May 11, '61.	Unsupplied		1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	....	....		Soon to be rec'v'd. [c.m'y
Owatonna	Oct. 22, '57.	C. C. Cragin	Aug. 22, '69	40	68	108	10	4	3	7	2	0	9	11	1	4	117	122	71	
Painesville	July 29, '66	Unsupplied		8	8	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	....	.....		
Plainview	Oct. 7, '63.	H. Willard	Sept. 1, '63.	20	36	56	30	17	6	23	0	0	0	0	11	3	100	68	00	
Prairieville East.	May 18, '60.	L. C. Gilbert	March. '66.	21	14	35	5	9	2	11	1	0	1	2	4	1	Un	41	53	Sub. to col. $9.
Prescott, Wis	Feb. 15, '52	A. D. Roe	Jan. 1, '70.	16	37	53	14	6	2	8	0	0	4	4	2	1	45	40	00	Sub. to col. $3.
Princeton	July, '56.	C. A. Hampton	July 1, '70.	4	12	16	0	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	....	.....		Sub. to col. $43.
Quincy	May, '63.	Unsupplied		8	15	23	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	50	25	00	
River Falls, Wis	Feb. 3, '55.	Wm. Gill	Nov. 1, '62.	36	67	103	3	9	5	14	1	0	1	2	5	0	125	.....		Am't ben. con. unknown.
Rochester	Jan. 3, '58.	A. Fuller	Nov. 18, '66	37	79	116	20	5	8	13	2	0	8	10	5	5	165	213	00	Sub. to col. $140.
Rushford	May 12, '60.	W. W. Snell	May 18, '55.	8	21	29	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	100	24	56	
Saratoga	July 28, '56	G. H. Mills	Sept. 1, '66.	22	18	40	15	4	1	5	0	1	3	4	1	0	30	.....		Am't ben. con. unknown.
Sauk Centre	Jan. 20, '67	A. J. Pike	Sept. 12, '68	9	20	29	6	3	3	6	0	0	2	2	0	0	60	30	50	—* [col. $55.
Sauk Rapids	Feb. 28, '55	S. Hall	Sept., '54.	6	7	13	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	*1	0	1	50	25	00	Joined Catholics. Sub. to
Smithfield	March 5, '68	H. Willard	May 1, '67.	6	9	15	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Un	23	30	Sub. to col. $80.
Somerset	Nov. 18, '66	Unsupplied		12	7	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	....	.....		
Spring Valley	May 24, '56	Palmer Litts	Jan. 1, '70.	24	30	54	3	11	1	12	0	0	1	1	9	0	80	23	10	
St. Anthony	Nov. 16, '51	James Tompkins	Sept. 4, '70.	30	61	91	27	0	6	6	1	0	13	14	0	1	180	.....		Sub. to col. $94.50.
St. Charles	Feb. 26, '59.	G. H. Miles	Sept. 1, '66.	22	33	55	12	1	2	3	1	0	3	4	0	0	40	50	00	
St. Cloud	Feb. 16, '64	Henry Mills	1870	13	18	31	2	4	8	12	0	0	1	1	2	4	90	56	55	Sub. to col. $81.50.
St. Paul	June 15, '58	L. J. White	Oct., '66.	36	64	100	0	2	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	200	00	Purchased lot for $3,000.
Sterling	Aug., '57.	—. Pratt, (Presb.)		16	19	35	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	60	30	00	
Vernon Centre	Oct. 23, '64.	Unsupplied		5	6	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	Un	.....		
Wabashaw	Feb. 14, '57	Unsupplied		27	35	62	19	0	3	3	2	0	2	4	0	0	140	.....		Ben. con. unknown.
Waseca	Jan. 16, '68	T. A. Wadsworth	Jan. 9, '70.	19	20	39	0	3	6	9	0	0	0	0	1	0	94	170	00	Sub. col. $123.
Wasioja	June, '58.	C. Shedd	June, '58.	5	12	17	2	1	3	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	....	.....		Ben. con. unknown.
Winnebago City	May 28, '59.	J. D. Todd	April 1, '69	15	26	41	5	10	12	22	0	0	5	5	3	0	98	20	00	
Winona	Dec. 10, '54.	H. M. Tenney	Oct., '70.	57	116	173	20	9	9	18	1	0	11	12	3	4	300	157	35	
Woodland Mills	July 7, '67.	J. D. Todd	April 1, '69.	9	13	22	0	5	3	8	0	0	3	3	4	0	50	15	00	
Zumbrota	June 28, '57	S. H. Barteau	1870	36	56	92	2	14	5	19	0	0	6	6	11	0	170	.....		Am't ben. con. unknown

—*Precise membership unknown. Needing to be reorganized. Expecting a minister soon from Wales.

ORGANIZED SINCE SEPTEMBER 10th, 1870.

Belle Prairie	Oct. 2, '70.	W. A. Cutler	June, '70.	2	2	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	....	.....	Five others ready to unite
Glenwood	Oct. 9, '70.	A. C. Lathrop	March, '67.	2	8	10	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	2	....	.....	
Hutchinson	Sept. 18, '70	S. H. Kellogg		2	2	4	0	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	.....	
Mower City	Sept. 11, '70	G. B. Nutting	Nov. 11, '69	4	3	7	0	..	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	.....	Sub. to col. am't unkno'n.

SUMMARY.

Whole number of churches, 75; of which two are in Wisconsin; whole membership, 3,425; males, 1,331; females, 2,094; non-residents, 415; whole number of additions, 588, to-wit: 316 on profession, 272 by letter; adult baptisms, 122; infant baptisms, 87; number of Sunday School and Bible Class scholars, 4,395; benevolent contributions (aside from subscriptions to College), $4,287.47.

The new subscriptions to Northfield College, in this year of almost, if not quite, unparalleled depression in Minnesota, have been something over $2,300, without reckoning anything subscribed at Northfield, and with only about half the number of churches being visited. Between nine and ten hundred dollars have also been collected on the old notes formerly given to the College; so that about $5,000 in cash has been paid during the year to objects of benevolence, which would be nearly $1.50 per member; besides which, not less than $20,000 in all, have been subscribed during the year to the College; or, in other words, nearly $6 per member. All of this money and subscription, of course, does not come from members of the church, but it is raised through their instrumentality.

C. SECCOMBE,
Statistical Secretary

MINISTERIAL RECORD FOR 1870.

Name.	Ordained.	Present Relation.	P. O. Address.	Association.
Alden, E. H	April 13, '64..	Acting Pastor...	Afton	Owatonna.
Andrews, D	Jan. 29, '40..	Without charge	Winona	Winona.
Armstrong, R. S...	Oct. 6, '56....	Acting Pastor ..	Hamilton	Winona.
Barnes, J. R	1838	Without charge	Winona	Winona.
Barteau, S. H	Feb. 19, '51..	Pastor	Zumbrota	Win. D Con. Wis
Brown, Ed	Jan. 13, '53...	Pastor	Medford	Owatonna.
Burbank, J. E	April 13, '58..	Without charge		
Campbell, G	Oct. 27, '68...	Prof. State Un..	St. Anthony	Northern Minn.
Champlin, O. P	July 10, '70..	Acting Pastor ..	Fairmount	
Cragin, C. C	Feb. 16, '70..	Pastor	Owatonna	Owatonna.
Cutler, W. A	June, '68.....	Acting Pastor ..	Belle Prairie	Northern Minn.
Dada, E. P	July 21, '64..	" "	Mazeppa	
Dada, W. B	July 1, '56 ...	" "	Lake City	Winona.
Everts, Reuben...	Sept. 30, '58..	" "	Alexandria	Northern Minn.
Fay, Prescott.. ...	Feb. 27, '56...	" "	Minneapolis	Northern Minn.
Fuller, A	Oct. 2, '62....	Pastor	Rochester	Winona.
Gale, Edmund	Dec. 24, '56 ..	Acting Pastor ..	Faribault	Central Minn.
Galpin, Charles....	Sept., '44	Without charge	Excelsior	Northern Minn.
Gilbert, L. C	July 16, '40 ..	Acting Pastor ..	East Prairieville..	Central Minn.
Gill, Wm	May 26, '63...	Pastor	River Falls, Wis..	Central Minn.
Grover, N. W	Sept. 3, '68...	Acting Pastor ..	Mantorville	Owatonna.
Hall, R	Aug. 8, '50...	Sup. of A.H.M.S	St. Paul	Central Minn.
Hall, S	June, '31.....	Acting Pastor ..	Sauk Rapids	Northern Minn.
Hampton, C. A....	March, '68...	" "	Princeton	Northern Minn.
Hart, E. J	Jan. 2, '56....	" "	Cottage Grove....	Central Minn.
Hunt, N. A	1846	Without charge	Vernon Centre....	Central Minn.
Kellogg, S. H	Nov. 10, '57..	Acting Pastor ..	Glencoe	Elgin Ass'n Ill.
Lathrop, A. C	1843	" "	Glenwood	Northern Minn.
Litts, Palmer	Jan. 24, '65...	" "	Spring Valley	Winona.
Merrill, E. W	April 5, '64...	Pastor	Cannon Falls	Central Minn.
Merrill, C. H	Licentiate ..	Acting Pastor ..	Mankato	
Miles, G. H	1860	" "	St. Charles	Winona.
Mills, Henry		" "	St. Cloud	
Morse, Alfred	June 7, '47...	" "	Austin	Owatonna.
Munson, M. A	May 31, '66...	" "	Northfield	Central Minn.
Nutting, G. B	1851	" "	Lansing	Owatonna.
Packard, A. K	Dec. 16, '51...	Pastor	Anoka	Northern Minn.
Peregrine, Philip..	March 10, '61	Acting Pastor ..	Judson	Welsh of Penn.
Pierce, N. H	1861	Ass'd w. N. Col.	Northfield	Central Minn.
Pike, A. J	1859	Acting Pastor ..	Sauk Centre	Northern "
Roe, A. D	Feb. 5, '67 ...	" "	Prescott, Wis	Central "
Seccombe, Charles	Aug. 8, '50...	Without charge	Northfield	Central "
Shedd, Charles ...	March, '42...	Acting Pastor ..	Wasioja	Owatonna.
Sheldon, C. B	Oct. 9, '51....	" "	Excelsior	Northern Minn.
Smith, O. M	Feb. 25, '63 ..	" "	Monticello	Northern "
Snell, W. W	Oct. 16, '59...	" "	Rushford	Winona.
Stearns, J. G. D...	May 10, '43...	" "	Clearwater	Nortnern Minn.
Stimson, H. A	May 25, '70...	Pastor	Minneapolis	Northern "
Strong, James W..	Sept. 28, '62..	Pres. of N. Col.	Faribault	Central "
Strong, John C....	Dec. 16, '46...	Without charge	Chain Lake Centre	Owatonna.
Tenney, H. M		Acting Pastor ..	Winona	
Todd, J. D	Jan. '60.....	" "	Winnebago City..	Southern Minn.
Thompkins, James	April 24, '67..	" "	St. Anthony	Northern "
Twitchell, Royal ..	Jan. 12, '42. .	Without charge	New Munich	Northern "
Wadsworth, T. A..	Feb. 23, '54 ..	Acting Pastor ..	Waseca	Win. Con. Wis.
Weld, W. M	1852	" "	Marine Mills	Winona.
White, L. J	June, '58.....	" "	St. Paul	Central Minn.
Willard, Henry....	Oct. 20, '58...	" "	Plainview	Winona.
Williams, E. M....	Feb. 25, '69 ..	" "	Austin	Owatonna.

SUMMARY.

Pastors	8
Acting Pastors	39
Associated with Northfield College	2
Associated with State University	1
Superintendent of the A. H. M. Society	1
Without charge	8
Total	59

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.		Place of Meeting	Moderator.	Recording Secret'y	Correspond'g Sec'y	Statistical Sec'y.	Preacher and Text.
October 24, 1856.		St. Anthony	Rev. S. Hall.....	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. C. Seccombe.		Rev. W. R. Stevens...John 1:4
Annual Meeting on the SECOND THURSDAY Of October, each year.	1 1857	Prescott, Wis...	Rev. L. Armsby...	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. C. Seccombe.		Rev. C.B. Sheldon,..2 Cor. 4:7
	2 1858	Faribault	Rev. D. Andrews..	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. R. Hall.....Rev. 11:15
	3 1859	Winona.....	Rev. C. Seccombe.	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. L. Armsby.....Rev. 3:18
	4 1860	St. Paul	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Andrews...Is. 55:10, 11
	5 1861	Anoka	Rev. O. A. Thomas	Rev. C. B. Sheldon	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. S. Fiske..... Phil. 4:6
	6 1862	Northfield.....	Rev. C. Shedd.....	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Shedd.....2 Thes. 2:13
	7 1863	Lake City.....	Rev. W. R. Stevens	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. J. W. Miller.. Jn. 17:20, 21
	8 1864	Rochester	Bro. C. M. Goodsell	Rev. A. K. Packard	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. C. Seccombe,..Prov. 24:10
	9 1865	Minneapolis	Bro. R. G. Lincoln	Rev. J. F. Dudley.	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. D. Burt.....Eph. 2:1
	10 1866	Faribault	Bro. W. J. Copp...	Rev. J. F. Dudley.	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. B. Smith.....Matt. 23:8
	11 1867	St. Cloud	Rev. J. W. Strong.	Rev. J. F. Dudley.	Rev. D. Burt	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. E. J. Hart..Luke 19:11, 27
	12 1868	Austin.....	Bro. S. W. Furber.	Rev. L. S. Griggs .	Rev. A. Fuller	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. A. Fuller, Job 40:3, 4:42:5, 6
	13 1869	Owatonna	Bro. J. L. Noyes ..	Rev. L. S. Griggs .	Rev. A. Fuller	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. E. Gale.... .John 4:22, 12
	14 1870	Northfield	Bro. R. J. Baldwin	Rev. H. A. Stimson	Rev. A. Fuller	Rev. C. Seccombe	Rev. W. B. Dada ....Mark 4:28

HISTORICAL SUMMARY OF THE CHURCHES.

Annual Meeting on the Second Thursday Of October of each year	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removal.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommunic'd.			Adult.	Infant.		
1856	8	9											
1857	16	16											
1858	41	27	137....	267..	5....	40....	0....	1037....	71....	42	41....	1116....	$ 966 38
1859	51	36	179....	233..	13....	66....	1....	1446....	99....	73	95....	1841....	725 31
1860	63	43	185....	201..	19....	140....	3....	1630....	180....	72....	90	1868....	921 90
1861	64	46	90....	122..	12....	91....	12....	1539....	169....	26....	66...	1841....	1103 92
1862	61	41	87....	105..	16....	48....	7....	1514....	255....	16....	60....	1843....	780 36
1863	59	45	118....	125..	28....	70....	2....	1677....	297....	35....	63	1244....	1029 14
1864	68	47	255....	498..	33....	109....	3....	2140....	314....	118....	85....	2737....	2644 66
1865	64	47	185....	169..	26....	107....	7....	2465....	324....	77....	71....	2823....	3.62 36
1866	66	52	156....	296..	33....	169....	5....	2569....	281....	94....	71....	2880....	3638 26
1867	71	55	300....	333..	31....	174....	6....	2925....	255....	134....	75....	3419....	2798 84
1868	70	55	185....	221..	28....	174....	4....	2965....	263....	89	76	3820....	3004 16
1869	70	53	185....	266..	28....	159....	11....	2905....	324....	79....	72....	3786....	3213 79
1870	75	59	316....	272..	38	159....	15	3425	415....	122....	87....	4395....	4287 47

(K.)

OBITUARY.

Died, in Saratoga, March 18, 1870, Rev. Gardiner K. Clark, aged 74 years. Mr. Clark was born in Bradford, Vermont, Feb. 28, 1796. He fitted for college with Dr. Cooley, of Granville, Massachusetts; graduated at Union College; studied theology at Auburn Seminary, and was licensed by the Onondagua Presbytery, of New York, in 1824. His first pastoral charge was at Preble, Courtland county, New York; he afterwards took charge of the church in Spencer, Tioga county, and afterwards went again to Preble, and then again returned to Spencer. Thus, alternately, he labored in these two fields for over 30 years, in both of which he was greatly beloved and his labors abundantly blessed.

In 1855 he came to Minnesota and settled with his children in Saratoga; where he at once employed himself about his Master's business. He soon gathered a Congragational Church, to which, by the aid of the Home Missionary Society, he regularly ministered till about four years ago, when the increasing infirmities of old age compelled him to give up the care of the church, and stand by in patient and serene waiting till the Lord should call him home. He was a man eminent for his piety, an excellent preacher, and eminently successful as a pastor. Few persons carry with them so much of the manifest presence of Jesus as this venerable man did. He was one whose face shone with the peace of God. "He rests from his labors and his works do follow him."

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the "General Congregational Conference of Minnesota."

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession, and By-Laws; each Church being represented by its Pastor, or stated supply, and one delegate. Members of other associations who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART 4. The presiding offieer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corrresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be Chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at seven o'clock, P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual Meeting of this Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting; and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe, (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution, shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Northfield College, and report at the next meeting.

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1871

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

GENERAL

Congregational Conference

—OF—

MINNESOTA.

HELD AT SAINT ANTHONY, OCTOBER 12–15, 1871.

OWATONNA:

SPELMAN, CRANDALL & BICKHAM, PRINTERS.

1872.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

General Congregational Conference

—OF—

MINNESOTA.

ST. ANTHONY, MINN., October 12th, 1871.

The ministers and delegates representing the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota assembled in Fifteenth Annual Session, with the church at St. Anthony, on Thursday evening, October 12th, at 7½ o'clock.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Charles C. Salter, of Duluth, from Isaiah xl: 3—subject: "Home Missions."

After service the Conference was called to order by Rev. James Tompkins, chairman of Committee on Arrangements, when Rev. W. B. Dada was chosen temporary Scribe and Prof. J. L. Noyes, Assistant.

Prof. J. L. Noyes and Revs. R. Hall and E. J. Hart were named as a committee to nominate permanent officers, and directed to report at the morning session.

The members were then enrolled and the Conference adjourned to Friday morning.

The roll, as finally corrected, stood as follows:

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Churches Represented.	*Ministers.*	*Delegates.*
Afton	Alva D Roe	Francis Patterson.
Anoka		Samuel Griggs.
Austin		J. N. Cook.
Claremont	Charles Shedd	
Clearwater	Jesse J D Stearns	
Cottage Grove	Edwin J Hart	Samuel W. Furber.
Douglas.		E. W. Carver.
Duluth	Charles C Salter	
Excelsior & Chanhassen	Charles B Sheldon	J. W. Murray.
Faribault, 1st Church.	Edmund Gale	
" Plymouth Ch.	Edwin M Williams	J. L. Noyes.
Glencoe		B. F. Buck.
Glenwood	A C Lathrop	
Grove Lake	A C Lathrop	
Hamilton	Robert S Armstrong	
Hudson	L M Foster	J. C. Dennison.
Lake City.	William B Dada	J. N. Williams.
Lakeland	Alva D Roe	
Lansing.	George B Nutting	
Mankato	Charles H Merrill	J. A. Kennedy.
Mantorville	N W Grover	Z. Cook.
Marine	William M Weld.	
Medford	Edward Brown	D. Sanborn.
Merton	Luman C Gilbert	
Minneapolis, Plym' ch.	Henry A Stimson	Wm. Cheney.
" Vine-st. ch.	Prescott Fay	O. B. King.
Monticello.	Oscar M Smith	
Mower City	George B Nutting	
Northfield.	Jas W Strong, tem. sup.	M. W. Skinner.
Owatonna.	Newton H Bell	J. A. Spelman.
Paynesville	[Unsupplied]	R. P. Gilbert.
Plainview.	Henry Willard.	
Prairieville, East.	Luman C Gilbert.	
Prescott, Wis.		W. J. Copp.
Princeton.	C A Hampton.	
Quincy	Charles Duren.	
River Falls, Wis.	William Gill	
Rochester.	Americus Fuller	E. Newton.
Sauk Centre.	Alpheus J Pike	
Smithfield.	Henry Willard.	
Spring Valley	Palmer Litts.	A. M. Alden.
St. Anthony.	James Tompkins.	B. F. Upton.
St. Charles		Bishop.

St. Paul	.....	Rev. R. Hall.
Wabasha	.....	O. Pendleton.
Wasioja	Charles Shedd.....	
Zumbrota.....	S H Barteau...	A. Barrett

Rev. J. W. Strong, D. D. Pres't Carleton Col., Northfield,
Rev. E. H. Alden, Waseca,
Rev. J. D. Todd, Winnebago City,
Rev. A. Morse, Austin,
Rev. G. H. Miles, St. Charles,
Prof. G. Campbell, State University, St. Anthony,
Rev. Austin Willey, Northfield,
Rev. W. W. Norton, New Richmond, Wis.,
Rev. N. H. Pierce, Northfield,
Rev. R. Hall, St. Paul. Supt. A. H. M. S.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. M. B. Angier, Newburyport, Massachusetts,
Rev. W. G. Pierce, Illinois,
Rev. A. Grout, Zulu Mission, Africa, A. B. C. F. M.,
Rev. W. S. Alexander, delegate from Gen'l Con. of Wisconsin.
Rev. T. D. Hunt, Michigan,
Rev. I. W. Montfort, St. Anthony, del. from Synod of Minn.,
Rev. J. Mariner, Providence, Rhode Island,
Rev. L. H. Elliott, Winooski, Vermont.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

OCTOBER 13th, 8:30 A. M.

Conference assembled and spent one-half hour in devotional exercises, led by Rev. Wm. G. Pierce, of Illinois

Report of the Nominating Committee was received and the Conference permanently organized by electing Rev. Jas. W. Strong, D. D., Moderator, Rev. E. H. Alden, Scribe, and J. A. Spelman, Assistant Scribe.

The minutes of last evening's and the early morning session were read and approved.

Rev. E. Brown, Bros. J. L. Noyes and Wm. J. Copp, and Revs. A. Morse, and R. Hall were appointed a committee of five to nominate committees to the Conference.

Business Committee reported an order of exercises for the morning session. Report adopted.

Voted to allow to opening speeches on the several topics selected, fifteen minutes, and to all subsequent ones only five minutes.

The visiting brethren present were made honorary members and invited to participate in the deliberations.

A motion to appoint a committee to examine the constitution, with reference to its revision, was referred to the Committee on Nominations.

Agreeably to the order adopted, at 9:30 A. M. Rev. J. D. Todd opened the discussion of the topic: "Why are so few youths of Christian families preparing for the Ministry?" Revs. A. C. Lathrop, H. Willard, Geo. B. Nutting and R. Hall continued the discussion.

Following a brief recess, the Conference engaged in devotional exercises for fifteen minutes, led by Rev. E. J. Hart.

At eleven o'clock the third topic, "The Mission of the Congregational Churches of America," was introduced by an earnest address from Rev. E. Brown. A general discussion followed, participated in by a large number of members.

Business Committee reported afternoon programme, which was adopted.

After prayer and singing, Conference adjourned to two o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

FRIDAY, OCT. 13th, 2 o'clock, P. M.

On assembling, half an hour was occupied in devotional exercises, led by Rev. M. B. Angier.

Conference was called to order and opened by prayer.

The Committee on Nominations made their report of committees, which, after revision, was adopted as follows:

Committee to Revise Constitution—Rev. Jas. Tompkins, Rev. H. A. Stimson, Rev. R. Hall.

Committee on Place and Preacher—Rev. Edmund Gale, Rev. A. Morse, Bro. A. Barrett.

Committee on Correspondence—Rev. J. Hart, Rev. H. Willard, Bro. M. W. Skinner.

Committee on Resolutions—Rev. A. Willey, Rev. A. Fuller, Bro Wm. Cheney.

Committee on Finance and Printing—Rev. H. A. Stimson, Rev. James Tompkins, Bro. J. A. Spelman.

Committee on Northfield College—Revs. E. Brown, E. Gale, H. M. Tenney, Prof. Geo. M. Gage, Hon. Geo. F. Batchelder.

Committee on Business for next Annual Meeting—Prof. G. Campbell, Revs. A. Fuller and W. B. Dada.

Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises—Revs. W. B. Dada, Wm. Gill, H. M. Tenney.

Committee on Reception of Churches—Revs. A. Hall and S. H. Barteau and Bro. James Cook.

Conference proceeded to ballot for Statistical Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor. Rev. R. Hall was elected Statistical Secretary, Rev. H. A. Stimson, Treasurer and Bro. M. W. Skinner, Auditor.

The Committee on Reception of Churches reported favorably on the application of the Duluth church, and it was admitted by vote of the Conference.

Rev. I. W. Montfort, of St. Anthony, and Rev. J. Mariner, of Providence, R. I., were announced as present, and made honorary members.

The Conference then listened to an address from Rev. A. Grout, of the Zulu Mission, answering the topic, "Can the A. B. C. F. M. be sustained by Congregational Churches alone?" A further discussion of this question was followed by a recess of five minutes.

At four o'clock the Conference engaged in brief devotional exercises, led by Bro. J. N. Cook.

The order being reports of delegates from corresponding bodies and visiting members, the Conference listened to warm Christian greetings from Rev. M. B. Angier, of Newburyport, Massachusetts; Rev. W. Pierce, of Illinois; Rev. W. S. Alexander, representing the General Convention of Wisconsin, and Rev. C. C. Salter, bearing credentials from the General Convention of Missouri.

The Moderator, in behalf of the Conference, made brief and appropriate responses to the kind sentiments expressed by each of the brethren.

Report of Business Committee read and approved, and, after prayer and singing, Conference took a recess until 7 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

FRIDAY, OCT. 13th, 7 P. M.

Conference assembled and was led by Rev. E. Brown in brief exercises of devotion. The business session was opened by prayer, when Rev. H. A. Stimson led the discussion on "The Financial Credit of Churches and the Responsibility of Trustees."

In discussing the "The duty of our Churches to Northfield College," Dr. Strong gave a very encouraging exhibit of the financial status of the College, and many other brothers added words of approval and good cheer.

A resolution expressing the deep interest felt by our Churches in the College was presented and referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Conference adopted the report of the Business Committee on the order for Saturday forenoon, and adjourned after prayer and singing.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

OCTOBER 14th, 8:30 A. M.

The devotional exercises were led by Rev. O. M. Smith.

At nine o'clock the Moderator called the Conference to order.

The regular order was deferred to give time for further reports from delegates to and from corresponding bodies.

Rev. L. H. Elliott, of Winooski, Vermont, spoke the greetings of the General Convention of Vermont. Rev. I. W. Montfort, representing the Synod of Minnesota, addressed the Conference, dwelling on the happy results of their late union. Rev. A. Morse, delegate to the General Baptist Conference of Minnesota, spoke of the cordial welcome extended to him by that body. Rev. A. Fuller read a letter from the General Association of Nebraska, expressing their sympathy and God-speed; also one from the Interior Department, concerning Indian affairs. Rev. H. A. Stimson read an appeal from the Secretary of the Western Educational Society, for aid.

Deacon R. P. Gilbert, by request, made a statement concerning the church at Paynesville. The society is poor. Has expended seven hundred dollars, and needs only two hundred dollars, in addition to amounts already pledged, to complete an edifice worth two thousand dollars. About one hundred and eighty dollars were donated by the Conference.

Rev. Prescott Fay led in devotional exercises.

Auditor M. W. Skinner having been called home, the Scribe was directed to cast the vote for the Conference in favor of Rev. W. B. Dada for Auditor. Brother J. N. Cook was substituted for J. L. Noyes, on the Committee on Nominations, Brother Noyes being called home.

Rev. H. A. Stimson read a circular letter from Secretary A. H. Quint, concerning the National Council at Oberlin.

Rev. E. M. Williams presented his report as Treasurer of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, which was accepted and referred to the Auditor. [See Appendix "F."]

The nominating committee recommended Dr. J. W. Strong for delegate at large to the Oberlin Council, with Prof. J. L. Noyes as alternate, and the recommendation was confirmed by the unanimous voice of the members present.

Treasurer Stimson read his report. Report accepted and audited. [See Appendix "A."]

The Committee on Place and Preacher, through Rev. E. Gale, chairman, made their report. Adopting their report, Lake City was chosen as the place for holding the next Conference, and Rev. C. H. Merrill was named as preacher with Rev. E. M. Williams as alternate.

The report of the Committee on Correspondence with other religious bodies was received, and, after amendment, was adopted. [See Appendix "C."]

The order for the afternoon was adopted and session closed with prayer by Rev. C. H. Merrill.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

SATURDAY, OCT. 14th, 2 o'clock P. M.

On re-assembling, Rev. H. Willard led the devotions.

The business session was opened with prayer by Rev. William Gill.

Topic number four, "The Communion of Saints: What is it? What ought it to be?" was introduced by Rev. A.

Fuller, in a well considered address. Fathers Shedd and Brown, and Rev. H. A. Stimson continued the discussion.

Revs. Austin Willey, W. B. Dada and J. G. D. Stearns were designated a special Committee on Temperance, to confer and act with committees from other religious denominations.

At 2:45 P. M., Rev. Geo. B. Nutting read a paper on the topic, "What Questions need to be discussed at the approaching National Council?" The paper and topic elicited further remarks and criticism from various members.

Conference listened to Rev. Austin Willey, who read a lengthy paper urging the necessity of religious, especially Congregational home literature. A further discussion of this paper was followed by singing and a recess of five minutes.

The special Committee on Temperance, through Rev. Austin Willey, reported orally, recommending co-operation with other religious denominations, and in closing presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Conference warmly approves of the plan for holding a Christian Convention in this State for the prosecution of the cause of temperance, as a religious work. We rejoice that our brethren of other denominations have taken action in favor of such a measure, and pledge them a fraternal co-operation by the appointment of three members of a Joint Committee to call such Convention.

The report was received and the resolution adopted.

Rev. W. W. Satterlee, from the Minnesota Annual Methodist Conference, on invitation, presented his personal congratulations, adding earnest words on the theme under discussion. Revs. Dada and Fuller also spoke briefly in favor of the temperance work.

The Business Committee reported a supplemental order for the remainder of the session, which was adopted.

At four o'clock, twenty minutes were spent in devotional exercises, Rev. L. C. Gilbert leading.

Rev. James Tompkins, for committee, reported the appointments for the Sabbath, which were revised and adopted. [See Appendix "D."]

The Committee on Nominations reported names of delegates to the National Council, for which list, as finally adopted, see Appendix "E."

On motion it was voted, "That the Moderator of the Conference certify to the Committee on Credentials of the National Council, that Rev. R. Hall is the delegate and Rev. E. M. Williams the alternate to the National Council, elected by nine churches, members of this State Conference, but not connected with Local Conferences."

The Committee to Visit Carleton College made their report, through Rev. W. B. Dada, expressing themselves highly pleased with the scholarship and deportment of the students and the general conduct and prospects of the College. The report was accepted and adopted. Rev. James Tompkins heartily endorsed the flattering words of the report, as warranted by his observations at the College.

Resolutions commending Carleton College to the favor and support of the Churches were read, by Rev. Austin Willey, and unanimously adopted by the Convention. [See Appendix "H."]

The Scribe was directed to cast the vote for the Conference in favor of Rev. C. C. Salter for Corresponding Secretary. The ballot was cast accordingly, and he was declared elected.

The order for the evening session was read and adopted, and the Conference took a recess until seven o'clock, after prayer by Rev. A. Grout.

EVENING SESSION.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 7 o'clock P. M.

The usual devotional exercises introduced the business session.

The Conference listened to Father Grout, of the Zulu Mission, who made an earnest plea for the foreign Missionary cause, and gave an enthusiastic and interesting narrative of his own work in Africa; when the whole congregation united in singing that inspiriting old hymn,

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun,"

And joined in prayer with Rev. J. D. Todd.

In compliance with a special request by telegraph from Secretary C. H. Howard, who was prevented by the Chicago fire from being present, Rev. James Tompkins presented briefly the cause of the American Missionary Association.

Rev. A. Fuller made his report as Corresponding Secretary. Report adopted and ordered printed. [See Appendix "G."]

Rev. R. Hall made report of the Home Missionary Work in the State. [See Appendix "H."]

A resolution requesting the *Advance* to publish the paper read before the Conference by Rev. Geo. B. Nutting, was adopted; also resolutions of thanks to the citizens of St. Anthony and Minneapolis, and to the railroad companies favoring delegates. [See Appendix "B."]

Rev. E. Gale was appointed to prepare, for publication in the Minutes, an obituary notice of the late Rev. David Andrews, of Winona, deceased during the past year.*

*The publication of this notice is unavoidably postponed, Mr. Gale being, as yet, unable to procure the necessary information.—SCRIBE.

The Minutes were read and approved, and, after a short season spent in prayer and singing, the Conference adjourned to Sabbath evening.

SUNDAY SESSION.

OCTOBER 15th, 1871.

The order adopted by the Conference for the Sabbath services, [See Appendix "D,"] was carried out.

At the close of the evening service a collection was taken up for the benefit of the church at Paynesville.

At 8:45 the Moderator took the chair and called for any unfinished business.

Rev. E. Brown offered a resolution of instruction to the delegates to the Oberlin Council, which was adopted. [See Appendix "B."]

Rev. James Tompkins, in a few fitly chosen words, expressed the thanks of the people of St. Anthony and Minneapolis for the Christian cheer they had realized from the presence of the Conference with them.

The Moderator most heartily responded, and, in conclusion, extended to Father Grout and the other visiting brothers present the regards and God-speed of the Conference.

After prayer by Father Grout and singing the doxology, the Conference was declared adjourned to meet at Lake City, on the second Thursday (the 10th) of October, 1872, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

J. W. STRONG, *Moderator.*
H. A. STIMSON, *Rec. Sec.*
E. H. ALDEN, *Scribe.*

APPENDIX.

(A)

REPORT OF TREASURER.

MINNESOTA GENERAL CONFERENCE,
In Account with H. A STIMSON, *Treas.*

		Dr.
Oct. 15, 1870	To Cash paid Mr. Seccombe for Blanks,	7 00
" "	" " Stationery, &c.	2 05
Nov. 20, "	" Scribe for Copying, &c ,	2 79
Dec. 13, "	" For Printing Minutes,	85 00
April 1, 1871	" Paper and Postage,	5 40
Sept. 18, "	" Scribe for Copying, Blanks, &c.,	15 89
	Balance,	21 40
		$139 53

CONTRA—CREDIT.

Nov. 10, 1870	By Draft of L. S. Griggs, Treas.,	13 83
1870–71	" Tax on Churches as per acc't,	125 70
		$139 53
Oct. 12, 1871	" Balance,	$21 40

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 12th, 1871.

H. A. STIMSON, *Treasurer.*

(*Correct,*) M. W. SKINNER, *Auditor.*

(B)

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE.

1. That, in view of the fact that the great territory of the Northwest is opening to settlement with unprecedented rapidity, opening doors for us to enter and take possession along the line of railroads and through the opening prairies, presenting opportunities that must be improved now or never, as far as our denomination is interested, we request of our delegates, and instruct them to urge upon the coming National Council the inauguration of prompt and efficient measures to bring all the power of our churches into action to do our part in evangelizing these regions and possessing them in the name of the Lord.

2. That this Conference warmly approves of the plan for holding a Christian Convention in this State, for the promotion of the cause of Temperance as a religious work. We rejoice that our brethren of other denominations have taken action in favor of such a measure, and pledge them a fraternal co-operation by the appointment of three members of a Joint Committee to call such Convention.

3. That we rejoice in the present prosperity of Carleton College, at Northfield, and, in behalf of our Churches in Minnesota, we promise to make its interests our own interests, to bear it upon our hearts and, as the Lord prospers us, to give for it our prayers, our money and our students.

4. That the Churches of this Conference, and the Christian public, owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Wm. Carleton for his munificent donation to the endowment of the College, which is already imparting hope and enthusiasm to the enterprise.

5. That, while we give hearty thanks to God for the munificen t donation of the past year to our College, we also record our sincere gratitude to the generous donor, Mr. Wm. Carleton, realizing, too, the weighty trust which the gift imposes upon us.

6. That we can but recognize with profound gratitude the Providence of God in the selection of a presiding officer for the College, and in his preservation from fearful peril and his restoration to health and strength, and we accept these blessings as an omen of prosperity and stimulus to renewed exertion.

7. That we repeat our convictions of the importance of making the benevolence of our churches systematic.

8. That the Congregational Publication Society, at Boston, is hereby

requested to establish an active agency in this State for the vast country on the Upper Mississippi, and the rapidly opening regions beyond. We regard this as essential to its usefulness here, and the earlier its works are brought before the people in the formative period of society the greater that usefulness will be. And we pledge our best efforts in co-operation for this object.

9. That the paper presented by Bro. Nutting, on topic 7, be sent to the *Advance*, accompanied by the request of the Conference for its publication.

10. That we extend to the people of St. Anthony and Minneapolis our sincere thanks for their generous hospitality to us on this occasion.

11. We also express our thanks to railroads which have favored the Conference.

(C)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Correspondence with other Religious bodies report the following delegates for the ensuing year:

To the General Association of		California,	Rev. A. K. Packard.
"	"	Connecticut,	" E. M. Williams.
"	"	Illinois,	" Americus Fuller.
"	"	Indiana,	" Henry Willard.
"	"	Iowa,	" Edward Brown.
"	"	Kansas,	" Charles Shedd.
"	"	Massachusetts,	" J. G. D. Stearns.
"	"	Michigan,	" Palmer Litts.
"	"	Nebraska,	" S. H. Barteau.
"	"	N. Hampshire,	" Alfred Morse.
"	"	New Jersey,	" E. H. Alden.
"	"	New York,	" James W. Strong.
"	"	Oregon,	" E. P. Dada.
"	"	Maine,	" Prescott Fay.
"	"	Missouri,	" Charles B. Sheldon.
"	"	Louisiana,	" A. C. Lathrop.
"	"	Ohio,	" Edmund Gale.
"	"	Rhode Island,	" N. W. Grover.
"	"	Vermont,	" Henry A. Stimson.
"	"	Wisconsin,	" William Gill.
Synod of Minnesota,		- -	" James Tompkins.
Baptist Convention of Minnesota,			" Charles H. Merrill.
M. E. Conference of Minnesota,			" A. J. Pike.

E. J. HART,
H. WILLARD,
M. W. SKINNER, } Committee.

(D)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

The Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises would submit the following appointments for the Sabbath:

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, St. Anthony.—

9 A. M.—Home Missionaries' Prayer Meeting, led by Rev. R. Hall.

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Walter S. Alexander.

3 P. M.—Children's Meeting. Addresses by Rev. A. Grout, Rev. W. S. Alexander and others.

7. P. M.—Fellowship Meeting and Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Rev. A. Grout to break the Bread and Rev. C. C. Salter to administer the Cup, assisted by Deacons J. Cook, D. Sanborn, A. Barrett and L. G. Johnson.

BAPTIST CHURCH, St. Anthony.—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. A. J. Pike.

M. E. CHURCH, St. Anthony.—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. E. H. Alden.

7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. J. D. Todd.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, St. Anthony.—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Pres. J. W. Strong, D. D.

7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. Charles Shedd.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, St. Anthony.—

7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. S. H. Barteau.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, Minneapolis.—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Charles C. Salter.

7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. A Fuller.

PLYMOUTH CHAPEL, North Minneapolis.—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Henry Willard.

6½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. E. M. Williams.

PLYMOUTH SCHOOL HOUSE MISSION, Pratt School House.—

3½ P. M—Sermon. Rev. A. D. Roe.

PLYMOUTH SCHOOL HOUSE MISSION, Lyndale Farm —

3½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. Wm. Gill.

VINE STREET CHURCH, (Congregational) Minneapolis.—
10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. J. G. D. Stearns.
7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. C. A. Hampton.
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Minneapolis.—
10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. E. M. Williams.
7½ P. M.—Sermon. Rev. C. H. Merrill.
MARSHALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, Minneapolis.—
10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Palmer Litts.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Minneapolis.—
10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Prof. Campbell.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES TOMPKINS,
L. W. CAMPBELL,
CHARLES SHEDD,
} Committee.

(E)

DELEGATES TO THE OBERLIN COUNCIL.

The following is the list of delegates to the National Council, as reported by the Nominating Committee and adopted by the Conference:

AT LARGE.

Principals.	*Alternates.*
Rev. James W. Strong.	Professor J. L. Noyes.

WINONA CONFERENCE.

Rev. Americus Fuller,	Rev. S. H. Barteau,
Dea. Henry Stevens.	O. O. Baldwin, Esq.

OWATONNA CONFERENCE.

Rev. Edward Brown,	Rev. Charles Shedd,
Rev. George B. Nutting.	Geo. W. Pratt, Esq.

NORTHERN CONFERENCE.

Rev. A. K. Packard,	Rev. James Tompkins,
William Cheney, Esq.	Dea. H. D. Cunningham.

ST. CROIX VALLEY ASSOCIATION.

Rev. E. J. Hart.	Rev. William Gill.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Rev. Robert Hall.	Rev. E. M. Williams.

(F)

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

THE WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY
In Account with E. M. WILLIAMS, *Treas.*

Dr.	CASH ACCOUNT.		Cr.	
1870.			1870.	
Oct. 15, To Balance on hand,		47 93	Oct. 15, By Loan, to A. J. Pike, 10 per cent.	15 00
" " " Coll. at Northfield,		41 07	" 22, " Paid to Mrs. Biglow, widow,	10 00
Dec. 22, " Cash, Dudley note,		85 00	" 24, " Loan to Bank, Austin 12 per cent.	64 00
1871.			" 26, " Loan to Bank, Austin, 12 per cent.	85 00
Oct. 4, " " " " p'd		101 65	1871.	
			Oct. 5, " Loan to Bank, Faribault, 12 per cent.	100 00
			" 9, " Cash on hand,	1 65
		$275 65		$275 65

STATEMENT OF TREAS. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

Assets Oct. 15, 1870, as per Treas. Rep't.			Assets W. and O. Soc'y, Oct. 9, 1871.	
Note of E. Brown,	$25 00		One Share Advance Stock,	$100 00
" J. F. Dudley,	127 00		Note, E. Brown, Oct. 12, 1867, 10 per cent.	25 00
Certificate Adv. Stock,	100 00		Note, A. J. Pike, Oct. 15, '70, 10 per cent.	15 00
" B'k Northfield,	35 00	—287 00	Certificate of Bank of Northfield, Oct. 28, 1868, 12 pr ct.	35 00
Accrued interest on above,		50 69	Certificate of Bank of Austin, Oct. 24, 1870, 12 per cent.	64 00
Cash Balance,		47 93	Certificate of Bank of Austin, Dec. 26, 1870, 12 per cent.	85 00
Total assets Oct. 15, 1870,		385 62	Certificate of Bank of Faribault, Oct. 5, 1871, 12 pr ct.	100 00
Collection at Northfield,		41 07	Int. on Notes to Oct. 21, 1871,	40 78
Nett paid during year,		39 74	Cash on hand,	1 65
		$466 43	Total,	$466 43

Faribault, Oct. 9, 1871.

E. M. WILLIAMS, *Treas.*

Audited and Approved, Oct. 14, 1871.
W. B. DADA, *Auditor.*

(G)

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The result for the year of Christian work within our State and denomination presents the following salient facts:

1. New Churches organized, three.
2. Increase in church membership, above five hundred.
3. Additions by profession, two hundred and twenty-three, by letter three hundred and sixty. Dismissed and died, two hundred and thirty-nine.
4. Number of scholars in Sunday Schools, above five thousand.
5. Number of infant baptisms, ninety-four, adult eighty-five.
6. Amount of benevolent contributions 6½ per cent. in advance of last year, or over four thousand five hundred dollars. Four Churches erected during the year.
7. Addition to College endowment, fifty-two thousand dollars.
8. Permanent improvement on College building, twelve thousand dollars. No general revival has occurred, but many churches have been greatly blessed and strengthened.

This is, on the whole, a hopeful showing, in comparison to former years, particularly in the matter of the growth of individual churches, the increase in benevolent contributions and progress in all the interests of our College.

In church building and church extension we feel painfully the need of more means and more men. In all this matter of church extension we are not up to the demand of the times, and in no respect is our progress as a denomination equal to the ratio of the growth of the State in population and general improvement. In these we are failing to make faithful use of the power and of the means which are entrusted to us.

Our faith and polity ought to be aggressive; indeed this independent polity is peculiarly adapted to lead the very advance of civilization, and of making for itself a wide place in these new communities.

Let us enquire earnestly what we can do. Let it be our ambition and resolve to go to our work with deeper consecration and more vigilant effort, to magnify our opportunities and our offices.

Respectfully submitted,

A. FULLER, *Corresponding Secretary.*

(H)

REPORT OF HOME MISSIONARY.

Forty-eight Churches, supplied by thirty two Missionaries, are to-day (Oct. 12,) receiving from the A. H. M. S. $11,850.00; this being an average of $370 00 for each Missionary.

Three Missionaries (Everts, Mills and Miles,) have recently left the State, and one has temporarily suspended labor. These four having received an aggregate of $1,600.00, which, added to the previous amount, makes an aggregate of $13,440.00. To which, if the Superintendent's salary and traveling expenses be added, we have an aggregate of $14,772.14 as the present rate per annum of Missionary expenditures in the State.

We have still thirteen self-supporting Churches, one having been added (Anoka) and one lost (Owatonna) to the self-supporting list during the year.

Five previously occupied fields are at present unsupplied, viz: St. Charles, Sterling, Paynesville, Alexandria and St. Cloud.

Three new fields have been occupied, viz: Duluth, Montevideo (including out stations at Lac qui Parle and Granite Falls,) and Fergus Falls.

Three Churches have been organized, viz: at Duluth, at Waverly in Martin county, and at Collins in McLeod county.

One Church, that at Winnebago City, has ceased to support preaching, and is likely to becom eextinct.

Five Churches have erected houses of worship, viz: Duluth, Excelsior, Hamilton, Mankato and Plainview. The Church at Belle Prairie has also been presented with a building, which serves them well for a place of worship.

Two Churches, Butternut Valley and Paynesville, are in the midst of a hard and a doubtful struggle to build this year.

Extra help has been secured in money for two of the Missionaries, Bros. Starr and Wolfsen, (from sources outside the H. M. Society,)—help without which they could not have been able to establish themselves on their present fields. Extra help has also been secured for two churches desolated by a hail storm, without which their Minister must have been compelled to leave his field.

The contributions to the H. M. Society, from this State for the year ending March 1st, 1871, were $1,058.75, this being $434.77 more than was received in the previous year.

The amount contributed in the six months succeeding March 1st, 1871, is only $422.40.

In order to reach only the same amount which our Churches gave last year, they must contribute $636.35, or $213.95 *more* during the last six months of the year than we have during the first six.

Ought not our *growth* to keep us up to the high-water mark of last year in our contributions to the Society, notwithstanding the desolation of hail and fire?

Surely it ought now to secure marked *advance every* year.

Two principal obstacles have operated to prevent the early occupancy of a number of new fields by the Society:

1. The want of suitable men who are willing to take the newest fields.
2. Inability of the Superintendent to pledge a sufficient amount of aid in building Churches.

It is not now as it was ten or even five years ago, when railroads were accustomed to *follow* the settlement of a country instead of going in advance of it, and leading it on. The same methods of missionary labor and the same style and rate of expenditure which were sufficient then will not answer now.

Town proprietors and business men, whether they be professedly Christian men or not, are apparently as anxious to have a Church and a School House among the first buildings erected in a new town—as anxious for this as were the Pilgrim Fathers of New England, when they settled on the shores of Cape Cod; though not always, it is to be feared, for the same reason. The later generation, as a whole, calculate more carefully the effect which the School House and the Church are to have upon the value of town lots, and less upon their necessity as a means of spiritual salvation. Yet now, as then, the Church and the School House must come *first*, and they must be respectable buildings in *appearance*, in order to set off the new town well and attract more and better settlers to it. The Minister, too, must be smart and showy for the same reason. Pecuniary interest and *greed* even is at one with religion on the point of demanding a Church *immediately*, and it even goes beyond religion in its demands respecting the cost and appearance of both the Church and the Minister. All this, perhaps, when the town is not six weeks old, has no more than 300 people and everybody has everything to do for themselves. To offer in such a place only $300.00 or $400.00 aid from the Missionary Society in supporting a Minister, and to offer from the Church Building Society only $400.00

or $500.00 aid in building a Church does not meet the exigency, at least not in the estimation of the citizens generally, for they must have both a respectable looking Church and a respectable looking Minister, according to their own standard, or they will have none at all. And as a large portion of those who make this demand are often members of no Church, and are either ignorant or indifferent as to the doctrinal differences and the difference in the Church polity of the different re-religious denominations, they are ready to give their influence and their money in favor of that denomination which will promise to bring them the most aid, especially in building a Church. Aid in supporting the Minister is considered important, but aid in building the Church is considered more important—most important. Hence it has happened that in two places in this State (Albert Lea and Winnebago City,) the Congregational Church has been supplanted by a Presbyterian Church, the Congregational Ministers in both cases being most ungraciously crowded out; the citizens, the business men generally, not church members, taking the ground that that denomination which would give them the most money to build a church should be helped by them to establish itself in the place. Principle has been entirely ignored, so far as church polity is concerned, perhaps because this was considered comparatively unimportant. Christian courtesy, too, has been ignored, not to say outraged, so far as previous occupancy of the field and previous missionary expenditure is concerned; for in both these cases the churches had been long established, and had each received from $1,600.00 to $2,000.00 aid from the A. H. M. Society, while the Presbyterian Society had expended nothing up to the time when they proffered in each place $2,000.00 or $3,000.00 aid for church building. The simple fact of the case is that, in these two instances, the question between a Congregational and a Presbyterian church for the place was determined by a money consideration and nothing else.

While my judgment strongly condemns this mode of operating, this method of competing for the precedency in small towns not yet large enough to support both a Congregational and a Presbyterian church, and in which one or the other of these two denominations has already acquired a right to the ground by prior occupancy and by previous missionary expenditure, while I must regard it as an unchristian use of money, one with which God cannot be well pleased, for denominations related as these are to deliberately apply their money with a view of crowding out and supplanting each other on a field already previ-

ously occupied by one or the other and not large enough for both; yet I am free to say that there appears to me to be much less objection (I will not say no objection, but much less objection) to the use of the *money power* pure and simple to determine the question of precedency on an entirely new field, a field where, as yet, Christ has not been named, and where no one denomination may have acquired any prescriptive rights by prior occupancy and labor and expenditure of missionary money.

On such a field it is, to say the least, more nearly right that that denomination which is willing to give the most money from abroad to support preaching and build a church should occupy the ground, if they can persuade the people that it ought so to be. And although it be true that, in order to secure a good, respectable sized church in a place, one half or two-thirds of the entire cost must be donated from abroad in order to raise the other one-half or one-third in the place, and by citizens, many of whom, perhaps, will never themselves darken the door of the church after it is built; yet those who donate the one-half or two-thirds have a perfect right to do it, and may be very benevolent in doing it, although they may run no little risk of finding afterwards that the real religious wants and preferences of the community are not really met and satisfied by the denominational peculiarities which their church represents.

And here I wish to say that, in some respects, other denominations seem to have comprehended the new order of things that has obtained since railroads have come to lead settlement rather than follow it—other denominations have comprehended this better than Congregationalists, especially in the matter of church building. They realize better than we do the benefit and the necessity for affording a much larger amount of aid than used to be given to build churches.

If I am rightly informed, most of the Presbyterian churches that have recently been built have been aided to the extent of one-half the cost of the building, the building costing usually not less than $2,500.-00. In some cases the aid has been two-thirds in a church costing $5,000.00 or $6,000.00. In some cases they have said to the people, "do what you can to put up a Church worth $2,000 or $3,000, and we will do the rest, *whatever it may be.*" In one case I know this offer was made where it was not expected the people could raise more than $500.00, and a Presbyterian Church of 13 members was organized with but two Presbyterian members in it, the rest all Methodists and Congregationalists—organized to get the aid.

I can count at least eight of our churches where, if $600.00 or $800.00 could be given them, they would get churches worth $1,200.00 or $1,600.00, and the existence of the church would be well assured; whereas now they seem to be trembling almost on the very verge of extinction.

There are often cases where it is indispensable for the erection of a house that the $400.00 or $500.00 which the American Congregational Union is accustomed to give should be doubled— made $800.00 or $ 1,000.00, and one half of it applied at the *beginning*, to stimulate and encourage the people to attempt to build, and the other half (as now) at the end, to relieve them by paying last bills, when they have exerted themselves to the utmost.

RICHARD HALL, *Supt. Home Missions.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT CARLETON COLLEGE.

The Committee report as follows:

FIRST. The examination at the close of the College year, compared with those at the close of the first term of the year, indicated marked progress in scholarship and general culture on the part of such as had been in attendance through the year.

The average of the recitations at the examinations at the close of the last term was marked 7.25 on the scale of 1 to 10. All, or nearly all, who were in attendance through the whole year, averaged still higher in scholarship.

SECOND. That the method of instruction is such as should commend the College to more extended patronage.

THIRD. That the public exercises in Oratory and Composition were highly commendable.

FOURTH. Since the donation of Mr. Carleton, the great want of the College is more students. It needs the enthusiasm that comes from numbers. Pastors and laymen should do all they can to secure students.

FIFTH. With numbers, buildings will be needed, and the means should be liberally provided.

SIXTH. That the Churches of the Conference owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. William Carleton for his munificent donation, which is already imparting hope and enthusiasm among the students.

SEVENTH. That the Committee can but recognize the hand of God in this Providence, opening the way for the success of the College.

HON. R. J. BALDWIN,
PROF. G. M. GAGE,
REV. JAS. TOMPKINS,
REV. W. B. DADA,
REV. P. A. WADSWORTH,
} *Examining Committee.*

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota.

ORGANIZED.		Place of Meeting.	Moderator.	Recording Secretary.	Correspond'g Secretary.	Statistical Secretary.	Preacher and Text.
				Revs.—	Revs.—	Revs.—	Revs.—
Oct. 24, 1856.		St. Anthony..	Rev. S. Hall	C. B. Sheldon	C. Seccombe.		W. R. Stevens..John 1:4
Annual Meeting on the 2d Thursday of Oct. each year.	1 1857	Prescott, Wis.	Rev. L. Armsby...	C. B. Sheldon	C. Seccombe.		C. B. Sheldon, 2 Cor. 4:7
	2 1858	Faribault...	Rev. D. Andrews..	C. B. Sheldon	C. Seccombe.	C. Seccombe.	Richard Hall, Rev. 11:15
	3 1859	Winona.....	Rev. C. Seccombe	C. B. Sheldon	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	L. Armsby, ..Rev. 3:18
	4 1860	St. Paul. .	Rev. David Burt..	C. B. Sheldon	D. Burt ...	C. Seccombe.	D. Andrews, Is. 55:10, 11
	5 1861	Anoka.....	Rev. O. A. Thomas	C. B. Sheldon	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	A. S. Fiske,....Phil. 4:6
	6 1862	Northfield...	Rev. Charles Shedd	A. K. Packard	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	Chas. Shedd, 2 Thes. 2:13
	7 1863	Lake City....	Rev. W. R. Stevens	A. K. Packard	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	J. W. Miller, Jn. 17:20, 21
	8 1864	Rochester..	Bro C. M. Goodsell	A. K. Packard	D. Burt ...	C. Seccombe.	C. Seccombe, Prov. 24:10
	9 1865	Minneapolis..	Bro. R. G. Lincoln	J. F. Dudley.	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	D. Burt .... Eph. 2:1
	10 1866	Faribault . .	Bro. W. J. Copp..	J. F. Dudley.	D. Burt	C. Seccombe.	A. B. Smith,..Matt. 23:8
	11 1867	St. Cloud ...	Rev. J. W. Strong.	J. F. Dudley.	D. Burt ...	C. Seccombe.	E. J. Hart, Luke 19:11, 27
	12 1868	Austin.....	Bro. S. W. Furber.	L. S. Griggs	A. Fuller....	C. Seccombe.	A. Fuller, Job 40:3; 42:5, 6
	13 1869	Owatonna.	Bro. Jas. L. Noyes.	L. S. Griggs.	A. Fuller ..	C. Seccombe.	E. Gale,..John 4:22, 12
	14 1870	Northfield...	Bro. R. J. Baldwin	H. A. Stimson	A. Fuller ..	C. Seccombe.	W. B. Dada, Mark 4:28
	15 1871	St. Anthony.	Rev. J. W. Strong.	H. A. Stimson	A. Fuller ...	Richard Hall.	C. C. Salter,... Is. 40:3

HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE CHURCHES.

Annual Meeting on the 2d Thursday of Oct. each year.	Churches.	Ministers.	Admissions.		Removals.			Total Membership.	Non-Residents.	Baptisms.		Sunday School and Bible Class.	Benevolent Contributions.
			Profession.	Letter.	Death.	Letter.	Excommun'd.			Adults.	Infants.		
1856	8	9											
1857	16	16											
1858	41	27	137	267	5	40	0	1037	71	42	41	1116	$ 966 58
1859	51	36	179	283	13	66	1	1446	99	75	95	1841	725 31
1860	63	43	185	201	19	140	3	1630	189	72	90	1868	821 90
1861	64	46	96	122	12	91	12	1530	169	26	66	1841	1103 92
1862	61	41	87	105	16	48	7	1514	255	16	60	1843	730 36
1863	59	45	118	125	28	70	2	1877	297	35	63	1244	1029 14
1864	68	47	255	498	33	109	3	2140	314	118	85	2737	2644 66
1865	64	47	185	160	28	107	7	2465	324	77	71	2623	3062 56
1866	66	52	156	236	33	169	5	2569	281	68	71	2880	3608 28
1867	71	55	300	333	31	174	6	2925	255	134	75	3419	2798 54
1868	70	55	185	221	28	174	4	2865	265	86	76	3820	3004 16
1869	70	53	185	266	28	159	11	2905	324	79	72	3786	3213 79
1870	75	59	316	272	38	159	15	3425	415	122	87	4395	4287 47
1871	79	69	223	294	56	292	19	3087	227	85	94	5985	5681 75

MINISTERIAL RECORD FOR 1871.

NAMES.	Ordained. Year.	Month.	Day.	Present Relation.	Post Office Address	Association.
Alden, E. H.	1864	4	13	Without charge.	Waseca	Owatonna.
Armstrong, R. S.	1856	10	6	Acting Pastor.	Hamilton	Winona.
Barnes, J. R	1838			Without charge.	Cannon Falls	"
Barteau, S. H.	1851	2	19	Pastor	Zumbrota	Win. dis. C. Wis.
Brown, Edward	1858	1	18	Pastor.	Medford	Owatonna.
Campbell, Gabriel	1868	10	27	Prof. State Univ'y.	St. Anthony	Northern.
Champlin, O. P.	1870	7	10	Acting Pastor.	Fairmont	
Cutler, Wm A.	1868	6	10	" "	Little Falls	Northern.
Dada, W. B.	1856	7	1	" "	Lake City	Winona.
Dada, E. P.	1864	7	21	" "	Mazeppa	
Dean, H. B.	Licentiate			" "	Prescott, Wis	
Duren, Charles	1841	2		" "	Little Valley	Winona.
Fay, Prescott	1857	2	27	" "	Minneapolis	Northern.
Foster, L. M.	Licentiate			" "	Hudson, Wis.	
Fuller, Americus	1862	10	2	Pastor.	Rochester	Winona.
Gale, Edmund	1856	11	24	Acting Pastor.	Faribault	Central.
Gulpin, Charles	1844	9		Without charge.	Excelsior	Northern.
Gill, William	1868	5	26	Pastor.	River Falls, Wis	Central.
Gilbert, L. C.	1840	7	16	Acting Pastor.	East Prairieville	Central
Graves, James T.	1871	4	18	Pastor.	Austin	Owatonna.
Grover, N. W.	1863	7	3	Acting Pastor.	Mantorville	Owatonna.
Hall, Richard	1851	8	8	Supt A. H. M. S.	St. Paul	Central.
Hall, Sherman	1831	5		Acting Pastor.	Sauk Rapids	Northern.
Hampton, C. A.	1863			" "	Princeton	Northern.
Hart, Edwin J.	1856	1	2	Pas or.	Cottage Grove	Central.
Holcombe, G T.	Licentiate			Acting Pastor.	Elgin	
Honeyman, W. E.	1865			" "	Wabasha	Pres. of Lehigh.
Hunt, N. A.	1846			Without charge.	Sterling	
Kellogg, S. H.	1837	11	10	Acting Pastor.	Glencoe	Elgin, Ill.
Lathrop, A. C.	1843	9	24	" "	Glenwood	Northern.
Litts, Palmer	1864	1	24	" "	Spring Valley	Winona.
Marshall, C. W.					Cresco, Iowa	
Merrill, E. W.	1864	4	5	Pastor.	Cannon Falls	Central.
Merrill, Chas. H.	1870	11	8	"	Mankato	Owatonna.
Miles, Geo. H.	1860			Acting Pastor.	St. Charles	Winona.
Morse, Alfred	1847	6	7	Without charge.	Austin	Owatonna.
Nutting, Geo. B.	1851	8	19	Acting Pastor.	Lansing	Owatonna.
Packard, A. K.	1851	11	16	Pastor.	Anoka	Northern.
Peregrine, Phillip	1861	3	10	Acting Pastor.	Judson	Welsh of Penn.
Pierce, N. H.	1861			Con. Carleton Col.	Northfield	Central.
Pike, A. J.	1859	3	9	Acting Pastor.	Sauk Center	Northern.
Roe, Alva D.	1867	2	5	" "	Afton	Central.
Salter, Chas. C.	1859	4	11	" "	Duluth	Central.
Shedd, Charles	1842	3	24	" "	Wasioja	Owatonna.
Sheldon, Chas. B.	1851	10	9	" "	Excelsior	Northern.
Smith, O. M	1863	2	25	" "	Monticello	Northern.
Snell, Wm. W.	1859	10	16	" "	Rushford	Winona.
Starr, E. C.	1871	3	30	" "	Waseca	Owatonna.
Starr, O. A.	Unknown			Missionary at large	Montevideo	
Stearns, J. G D.	1843	5	10	Acting Pastor.	Clearwater	Northern.
Stimson, H. A.	1870	5	25	Pastor,	Minneapolis	Northern.
Strong, James W.	1862	9	28	Pres. Carleton Col.	Northfield	Central.
Strong, John O.	1846	11	16	Con. with I. Mis'n	Leech Lake	Owatonna.
Tenney, H. M.	1863	10	21	Pastor.	Winona	Suffolk, S. Mass
Todd, J. D.	1860	1		Acting Pastor.	Lansing	Southern.
Tompkins, James	1867	4	24	Pastor elect.	St. Anthony	Northern.
Twitchell, Royal	1842	1	12	In Mission'y work.	New Munich	Northern.
Weld, Wm. M.	1852	5	14	Acting Pastor.	Marine	Central.
Willard, Henry	1858	10	20	" "	Plainview	Winona.
Willey, Austin	Unknown			Without charge.	Northfield	Central.
Williams, E. M.	1869	2	25	Pastor.	Faribault	Owatonna.
Wolfsen, Ludwig	Unknown			Acting Pastor.	Fergus Falls	

MINISTERIAL SUMMARY.

Pastors,	12
Pastor Elect,	1
Acting Pastors,	35
Associated with Carleton College,	2
Associated with State University,	1
Supt. of A. H. M. Society,	1
In General Missionary Work,	2
Connected with Indian Mission,	1
Without Charge,	6
Unknown,	1
Total,	62

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the "General Congregational Conference of Minnesota."

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession and By-Laws; each church being represented by its Pastor, or Stated Supply, and one Delegate. Members of other associations, who shall subscribe as above, may also be admitted as members by special vote.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body, may be invited to sit as honorary members, to take part in the deliberations, but not to vote.

ART. 4. The presiding officer shall be a Moderator, chosen by ballot, to continue in office one year.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect informa-

tion, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office fo three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual meeting of the Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one apointed at the previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangement and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members, to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a Scribe (one or more) shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates of the delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on correspondence with other religious bodies, resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent, during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every Church applying for admission to the Conference, shall present, for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Carleton College, and report at the next meeting.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1871.

CHURCHES.				MINISTERS.			MEMBERS. Sept. 1, 1871.				Added 1870-71.			Removed 1870-71.			No. bapt.		In S.S.	CONTRIBUTED TO				
NAMES.	Organiz'd. Year.	Organiz'd. Month.	Organiz'd. Day.	NAMES.	Called by the Church.	Installed.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	By Profess'n	By Letter.	Total	By Death.	By Dismiss'n.	By Excom'n	Total.	Adults.	Infants.	Whole No. in S. Schools	Foreign Work.	Home Work.	Other Objects.	Church Expenses.	Total.
Afton	1883	6	24	Alva D. Roe	1871		5	15	20	9					1	1	2		3	50	34 50	8 70		375 00	418 20
Alexandria	1867	11	14	Unsupplied			6	14	20	1	4	2	6					1						
Anoka	1855	5	6	A. K. Packard	1860	1860	31	51	82	17				3	2	2	7	6		104	17 22	37 10		14 99	1553 32
Austin	1857	7	6	James T. Graves	1871	1871	25	50	75	5	4	11	15	3	6		9	1	4	130	52 34	90 92	178 87	1100 00	1407 13
Bear Valley																						5 00		40 00	45 00
Beaver	1868	8	4	Henry Willard			4	7	11	2	3		3	2			2	1		25		20 00		300 00	320 00
Belle Prairie	1870	10	4	Wm. A. Cutler	1870		3	6	9		2	7	9												
Bristol	1867	4	27																						
Butternut Valley	1855	10	18	Phillip Peregrine			12	14	26	4	1	3	4	2	3		5		4	60	5 60	5 00	4 00	10 00	24 60
Cannon Falls	1856	7	31	E. W. Merrill	1867	1870	11	16	27	1		2	2	1		1	2			65		10 00		215 00	225 00
Chain Lake Center	1845	5	29	O. P. Champlin			5	4	9						3		3		3						
Claremont	1860	5	—	Charles Shedd			12	20	32	3	12	2	14					7	1	135	5 00	12 25	25 00	140 00	172 25
Clearwater	1854	4	20	J. G. D. Stearns	1868		20	43	63	16	2		2					2	2	95	49 50	85 50	18 00	735 00	888 00
Cottage Grove	1858	11	29	Edwin J. Hart	1867	1871	31	42	73	14	1	7	8		2		2		3	90	18 60	80 50	16 00	850 00	915 10
Duluth	1871	1	18	Chas. C. Salter	1870		18	14	27	1	9	20	29	1	1		2	1	8	80		80 00		2500 00	2580 00
Douglas	1870	8	28	E. W. Merrill	1870		11	11	22	3	2	9	11		5		5			50				123 17	
Elgin	1858	4	10	G. T. Holcomb	1870		11	14	25	5					4		4								
Excelsior	1858	7	17	Chas. B. Sheldon	1855		36	50	86	9	3	4	7	4	3	1	8	1		100	7 75	15 00	25 00	2075 00	2122 75
Fairmont	1858	5	23	O. P. Champlin			9	9	18		6	3	9		4		4	3				7 95			
Faribault																									

1872.

1871

ON

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA.

HELD AT LAKE CITY, OCTOBER 10TH, 1872.

MINNEAPOLIS:
JOHNSON & SMITH, PRINTERS.

MINUTES

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF MINNESOTA.

LAKE CITY, MINN., October 10th, 1872.

The ministers and delegates representing the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, assembled in Sixteenth Annual Session, with the church at Lake City, on Thursday evening, Oct. 10, 1872, at 7 1-2 P. M.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. E. M. Williams, of Faribault, from Rom. 1: 16, and 2 Tim. 2: 15. Subject, "The Work and The Workman."

After service, the Conference was called to order by Rev. J. W. Ray, when Rev. E. J. Hart was chosen temporary Moderator, and Rev. O. P. Champlin temporary Secretary.

Vacancies in the Business Committee were filled by adding Revs. A. K. Packard and J. W. Ray; and a vacancy in the Committee of Arrangements by adding Rev. J. W. Ray.

The members were then enrolled, and the Conference adjourned to Friday morning.

The roll, as finally corrected, stood as follows:

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS.	DELEGATES.
Anoka	A. K. Packard	
Austin	J. T. Graves	
Cannon Falls	E. W. Merrill	
Chain Lake	O. P. Champlin	
Claremont		S. S. Beckwith.
Clearwater	J. G. D. Stearns	
Cottage Grove	E. J. Hart	T. Furber.
Douglas	E. W. Merrill	
Duluth	C. C. Salter	
Excelsior	C. B. Sheldon	Rev. C. Galpin.
Fairmount	O. P. Champlin	
Faribault, Plymouth ch.	E. M. Williams	
Granville	E. W. Merrill	
Hamilton	A. S. Armstrong	
Hutchinson	S. R. Butler	
Lac qui Parle	O. A. Starr	
Lake City	J. W. Ray	Dea. Humphrey.
Mantorville	N. W. Grover	
Mazeppa	E. P. Dada	S. W. Wyatt.
Medford	E. Brown	
Minneapolis, Plym'h ch.	H. A. Stimson	Wm. Cheney.
Minneapolis, Vine St.ch.	H. Bumstead	
Monticello	O. M. Smith	
Montevideo	O. A. Starr	
Northfield	J. A. Towle	N. W. Pierce.
Plainview	H. Willard	
Prairieville, East	L. C. Gilbert	
Rochester	A. Fuller	
Rushford	W. W. Snell	
Saratoga	F. L. Fuller	
Sauk Centre	A. J. Pike	
St. Charles	Geo. Ritchie	
St. Paul	C. M. Terry	
Wabashaw	W. E. Honeyman	
Waverly	O. P. Champlin	
Waseca	E. C. Starr	
Winona	H. M. Tenney	A. H. Bissell.
Zumbrota	S. H. Barteau	I. C. Stearns.

Also, Rev. R. Hall, Supt. of Missions.
Rev. E. S. Wlliams, Pastor at Large, Red River Colony.
Rev. E. H. Alden, Waseca.
Rev. H. N. Gates, Detroit City.

Received under Article 2 of Constitution.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. J. W. Strong, D. D., Carleton College.
Rev. D. Burt, Winona.
Rev. C. Cushing, D. D., Sec. Cong'l Union.
Rev. G. S. F. Savage, Chicago.
Rev. H. W. Storrs, D. D., Sec. A. H. M. Society.
Rev. M. E. Strieby, Sec. A. Miss. Association.
Rev. M. B. Lewis.
Rev. W. B. Macwilliam, Manchester, Eng.
Rev. H. H. Beach.
Rev. H. W. Todd, Lake City.
Rev. Wm. Walker, Gaboon Mission.
General C. H. Howard.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

OCTOBER 11.—8:30 A. M.

Conference assembled, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises, led by Rev. E. P. Dada.

Report of the Nominating Committee was received, and the Conference permanently organized by electing Rev. S. H. Barteau, Moderator; Rev. J. A. Towle, Scribe; and Rev. H. Bumstead, Assistant Scribe; Rev. H. A. Stimson, Treasurer, and Mr. T. Furber, Auditor.

Report of the Business Committee, on order of exercises, was presented and accepted.

Voted, to do away with the reports of delegates to foreign bodies.

The Conference then spent a short time in devotional exercises, prayers being offered by Revs. Salter and Strong, and remarks by R. Hall and E. Brown.

The Moderator appointed as Nominating Committee, Revs. H. M. Tenney, C. C. Salter, W. W. Snell, Dea. J. C. Stearns, and Bro. Wm. Cheney.

The topic in order was then taken up: "*Personal Piety; its Importance as an Element of Christian Usefulness; and the Means of Promoting it.*" Opened by Rev. A. K. Pack-

ard, who was followed by Revs. W. W. Snell, C. Galpin, A. Willey, H. Willard, R. Hall, E. Brown, H. A. Stimson, Dea. Beckwith.

During the discussion it was voted that those opening topics be limited to fifteen minutes, and all others to five minutes.

After the discussion was closed, a recess of ten minutes was taken.

After recess, the Nominating Committee reported in part, and their report was accepted and subsequently adopted, as in appendix ("A").

The Treasurer then presented his report, which was accepted. (See Appendix "B.")

The Treasurer of the Widows' and Orphans' Society then presented his report, which was accepted. (Appendix "C.")

The report of the Committee on Finance and Printing was made orally, and accepted.

Voted, that a tax of five cents per member be laid upon the churches for the expense of printing the Minutes; and that the Recording Secretary be authorized to insert advertisements in the printed Minutes, and to increase, with the proceeds of the same, the number of copies issued.

Adjourned to 2 P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference met at 2 P. M., and opened its session with prayer and singing.

The Delegate to the Oberlin Council reported in regard to the meeting of the Council, and the new Home Missionary Plan.

The Home Missionary Agent for the State presented his report, which was accepted. (Appendix "D.")

The topic of "*Home Missions and the New Plan,*" was then

opened by Rev. C. C. Salter, who was followed by Revs. E. Brown, A. J. Pike, A. Willey, E. M. Williams, W. W. Snell, R. Hall, A. Fuller, G. S. F. Savage.

Recess of ten minutes was then taken, after which the discussion was continued by Revs. W. Willard, C. Galpin, A. K. Packard, J. W. Ray, H. A. Stimson.

The discussion was then suspended, and the matter referred to a committee, consisting of one from each local Conference, viz: Revs. A. Fuller, from Winona Conference; J. W. Strong, D. D., from Owatonna Conference; H. A. Stimson, from Anoka Conference, and E. J. Hart, from the St. Croix Valley Convention; to which Revs. H. N. Gates and E. H. Alden were afterwards added as members at large.

The Conference then listened to an account, by Rev. E. H. Alden, of his work on the extension of the Winona and St. Peter R. R., in reference to which a collection of one hundred dollars was then made in aid of a church building in Marshall, and one hundred and seventy-five dollars more were pledged for a church building in Saratoga, Lynn Co.

The topic of Systematic Benevolence was then opened by Rev. H. A. Stimson, who was followed by Bro. Wm. Cheney and Rev. E. Brown.

Voted, that a committee of three be appointed to present to the Conference a plan of Systematic Giving. Revs. H. A. Stimson, E. Brown, and Bro. T. Furber. were appointed as this committee.

The Committee on the Reception of Churches reported recommending that the churches at Montevideo, Lac qui Parle, Detroit, Brainerd and Marshall be received into the Conference. Adopted.

The Committee on Revision of the Constitution reported amendments, and their report was laid on the table.

Adjourned to 7. P. M.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

The Conference reassembled at 7 P. M., and was opened with prayer by the Moderator, and singing.

Gen. C. H. Howard, Western Secretary of the American Missionary Association, then addressed the Conference, and was followed by Rev. M. E. Strieby, of New York; Rev. H. A. Stimson, of Minneapolis, and Rev. C. M. Terry, of St. Paul. Prayer was then offered in behalf of the American Missionary Association, by Rev. J. W. Ray, after which Rev. C. Cushing, D. D., of Boston, presented the work and claims of the Congregational Union. A hymn was sung, and Rev. H. M. Storrs addressed the Conference upon the American Home Missionary Society.

Rev. G. S. F. Savage, D. D., offered prayer, and Conference adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 8:30.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Saturday, Oct. 12.—The Conference assembled at 8:30 A.M. for devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. E. S. Williams. At 9 the roll was called, and the minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Place and Preacher for the next annual meeting reported, and adopting their report, the Conference chose for the place, St. Paul; and for the preacher, Rev. H. M. Tenney, with Rev. S. H. Barteau as alternate.

The Committee on Systematic Giving reported. (Appendix "N.") It was voted that this committee be made a standing committee, with power to act.

The Committee on the Minnesota Home Missionary Society reported, and the report was accepted and adopted. Rev. C. C. Cushing made statements respecting the Congregational

Quarterly, and Rev. G. S. F. Savage, D. D., spoke upon Chicago Theological Seminary.

Voted, that the Minnesota Home Missionary Society meet before Conference in the afternoon.

Voted, that the Nominating Committee be instructed to make nominations for the officers of the Home Missionary Society.

Rev. Mr. Williams, Agent of the American Bible Society, spoke upon its work.

Rev. H. M. Tenney addressed the Conference upon "*The Work of the Church in the Parish*," and was followed upon the same topic, after the singing of a hymn by the Conference, by Rev. Austin Willey, Rev. Henry Willard, Rev. J. W. Ray, Rev. E. M. Williams, Rev. A. Fuller, Rev. O. A. Starr. *Voted*, to commit the matter to the Committee on Resolutions.

The report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution was then taken from the table, accepted and adopted article by article. (*Vid.* Constitution and By-Laws as published at end of these minutes.

The Conference then adjourned till afternoon.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

[For minutes of Minnesota Home Missionary Society, see Appendix "M."]

The Conference reassembled after the meeting of the Minnesota Home Missionary Society.

Rev. R. Hall spoke in regard to the Western Seamen's Friend Society.

Reports from the scribes of the local conferences were presented by Rev. A. K. Packard, of Anoka Conference, and Rev. N. W. Grover, of Owatonna Conference. No report was presented from Winona Conference. Rev. E. J. Hart

reported from St. Croix Valley Convention, and additional reports were made by Rev. E. M. Williams, of Owatonna Conference, and Rev. A. J. Pike, of Anoka Conference.

Rev. R. Hall presented the Statistical Report. (Appendix "E.")

A committee was appointed, consisting of Rev. A. K. Packard, Rev. J. G. D. Stearns and Rev. H. A. Stimson, to report at the next annual meeting on the subject of Infant Baptism.

Rev. E. S. Williams then opened the topic of Temperance, and was followed by Dea. I. C. Stearns, Rev. J. W. Ray and Rev. Austin Willey.

The Committee on Resolutions presented their report, which was adopted. (Appendix "F.").

The Conference adjourned until 7 P. M.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

7 P. M.—The Conference reassembled, and was opened with singing, after which Rev. C. B. Sheldon offered prayer.

Rev. Wm. Walker, of the Gaboon Mission, addressed the Conference, and was followed by Rev. W. B. Macwilliam, of Manchester, England. Pres. J. W. Strong, D. D., made a report of the condition of Carleton College, (Appendix "G.") Rev. E. Brown, in behalf of the Visiting Committee of the College, presented a report and resolution, which were adopted. (Appendix "H.") Remarks were made by Rev. J. A. Towle, Rev. H. A. Stimson, Rev. C. Cushing, D. D., Pres. J. W. Strong, D. D., Rev. E. Brown.

In the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, his report was read by Rev. J. W. Strong. After remarks by Rev. E. M. Williams, Rev. A. Fuller, Rev. J. W. Strong, Rev. H. N. Gates, Rev. J. W. Ray, Rev. N. W. Grover, Rev. E. S. Williams, Rev. E. Brown, it was voted to recommit the

report to the Corresponding Secretary. (For report as revised, see Appendix "I.")

On motion of Rev. R. Hall, it was then

Voted, that the secretaries of the local conferences be requested to have their annual reports upon the State of Religion in the hands of the Corresponding Secretary of the General Conference previous to the first of October.

The Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises reported order of exercises for the Sabbath, which was adopted. (Appendix "J.")

A vote of thanks to the citizens of Lake City for their hospitality was reported by the Committee on Resolutions, and passed by a rising vote of the Conference. Rev. J. W. Ray responding in behalf of the citizens.

The Conference passed a vote of thanks to the Moderator. Rev. Wm. Walker led in prayer.

Voted, that Revs. E. Brown and E. S. Williams be commissioned to prepare notices of the deaths of Revs. H. M. Chapin and N. T. Deming, to be inserted in the minutes. (Appendixes "K" and "L.")

The Conference joined in singing the doxology, the benediction was pronounced by the Moderator, and the Conference adjourned.

S. H. BARTEAU, *Moderator.*
H. A. STIMSON, *Rec Sec.*
J. A. TOWLE, } *Scribes.*
H. BUMSTEAD, }

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.

COMMITTEES.

Committee on Place and Preacher—Revs. C. B. Sheldon, H. Bumstead, A. H. Bissel, Esq.

Committee on Resolutions—Revs. H. A. Stimson, E. J. Hart, M. W. Grow.

Committee on Finance and Printing—Revs. H. A. Stinson, J. W. Ray, Bro. Wm. Cheney.

Committee on Carleton College—Revs. C. M. Terry, E. Brown, J. A. Towle, Deacon Elihu Smith, Prof. Campbell.

Committee on Business for next Annual Meeting—Revs. E. S. Williams, E. M. Williams, J. A. Towle.

Committee on Arrangements and Devotional Exercises—Rev. C. M. Terry.

Committee on Reception of Churches—Revs. R. Hall, A. K. Packard, Deacon I. C. Stearns.

Committee on Temperance—Revs. A. Willey, H. Willard, Bro. Theo. Furber.

APPENDIX B.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Minnesota State Conference in account with H. A. Stimson, Treasurer.

1872. Dr.

March 14. To expense of printing minutes and mailing same	$100 00
Postage, paper and expressage	4 00
Balance	48 00
	$152 10

1871. Contra Cr.

Oct. 15. By balance	$ 21 40
1872.	
Oct. 9. By cash received from churches	130 70
	$152 10
Oct. 10. Balance	$ 48 00

Minneapolis, Oct. 10th, 1872.

H. A. STIMSON, Treasurer.

Correct. THEODORE FURBER, Auditor,

APPENDIX C.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society in account with E. M. Williams, Treasurer.

Cash Account.

1871.	Dr.	1871	Cr.
Oct. 9. To balance....	$ 1 65	Nov. 6. By loan, Bk. of Northfield 12 pr. ct.	$89 00
" 14. " Note, A J. Pike, $15; int. 1.50.	16 50	" 9. By cash to Mrs. Bigelow.....	15 00
" 14. To collection, St. Anthony.....	37 75	1872	
Nov. 6. To note, Bk. of Northfield, $35, int. 12.72.....	47 72	Feb. 14. By cash to Mrs. Bigelow	20 00
" 6 To cash.....	38		
1872.			
Feb. 14. To E. Brown, int. on note.....	10 00		
" 14. To cash.....	10 00		
	$124 00		$124 00

Assets Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, October 10, 1872.

Advance stock.....	$100 00
Note of E. Brown, 25, int Oct. 12, 1 year, 12 per cent....	28 00
" " W. B. Dada, 100, int. Oct. 14 1 year, 12 per cent.	112 00
" " Bk of Northfield, 89, int. Oct. 6, 11 mo. 12 pr. ct.	98 79
" " Bk. of Austin, 64, int. Oct. 24, 2 years, 12 pr ct.	79 36
" " Bk. of " 85, int. Oct. 26, 22 mo., 12 per ct.	103 70
Total.....	$521 85

EDWARD M. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

Faribanlt, Oct. 10, 1872.

Examined and found correct. THEODORE FURBER, Auditor.

APPENDIX D.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT AMERICAN HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Since last October 56 churches have been receiving about $14,300.00 from the American Home Missionary Society, in support of 38 missionaries, averaging $376.00 to each missionary.

The present rate of annual expenditure by the Society, including in addition to the above, the Superintendent's salary and traveling expenses, and $1,100.00 expended on newest fields, where, when the missionaries began to labor there were neither church organizations nor places for holding public worship—not even school houses, is about $16.700.00.

Fourteen churches are self-supporting. Four others are at present supplied without missionary aid.

Six fields previously occupied are unsupplied, viz: Alexandria, Elgin, Lansing and Brownsdale, Paynesville, Spring Valley, and Cannon City.

Six new fields have been occupied, viz: Brainard, Cannon City, Collins, Detroit, Hutchinson, Morris and Hancock.

Rev. E. H. Alden is laboring on a seventy miles line of this summer's extension of the Winona & St. Peter railroad, beginning about 15 miles west of New Ulm, in Brown county, and extending to the crossing of the Redwood river in Lyon county. He has organized a church at Marshall, and expects soon to organize at Saratoga.

Ten churches have been organized, viz: at Audubon, Brainard, Cannon City, Detroit, Fergus Falls, Lac qui Parle, Little Falls, Marshall, Montevideo and Rose Creek.

Three of these—Audubon, Brainard and Detroit, are the result of the labors of Rev. H. N. Gates, who was commissioned by the Society in December last. to labor on the line of the Northern Pacific railroad, and who entered upon his work in January. Houses of worship are in process of erection in each of these three places.

The churches at Butternut Valley and Paynesville have completed their houses of worship.

A chapel costing $5.000.00 is approaching completion at Brainard, built for the Congregational church there by the munificence of Hon. J. Gregory Smith, a member of the Congregational church in St. Albans, Vt., and late President of the Northern Pacific railroad. The value of this gift to the church there can hardly be overestimated in respect to the advantage it will give and

is already giving it, for attaining soon a vigorous life. Would that there were many more christian stewards like Gov. Smith, able and willing to do a similar service. so needful and so helpful to the home missionary work in our frontier towns.

At Fergus Falls, a place of 500 population, where the American Home Missionary Society expended 700.00 during the year ending August 15th, 1872, our missionary. Rev. L. Wolfsen, being on the ground and hard at work amid many privations and hardships for nine months before the place was occupied by any other denomination— at this point our work has suffered greatly for want of timely aid in church building. Appeals have been made but as yet in vain for such aid. Meanwhile, when we ought to have been first in building, as we were first in occupying and in organizing a church, other denominations have come in and we are placed in some respects at a great disadvantage. A Presbyterian church has been organized, and by $2,000.00 aid from abroad a twenty-five hundred dollar church has already been completed and dedicated; and our missionary is left to struggle, with the disadvantage of having no house of worship.

By means of $113.00 aid from Plymouth church, Minneapolis, and $100.00 apice from three private individuals, one in St. Paul and two in Boston—in addition to $500.00 expected from the Congregational Union, the church in Princeton has been enabled to erect a house of worship, which is now nearly completed; thus preventing the minister, Rev. C. A. Hampton, from abandoning his field in despair, as he was on the point of doing last Spring, from the want of a house and the improbability of further progress without one.

The contributions to the American Home Missionary Society from the State for the year ending March 1st, 1872, were $1,184.-32. The amount in six months succeeding March 1st, 1872, is $519.57. This amount ought to be trebled during the last six months of the year in order to correspond at all with God's bounty to the State this summer in the abundant harvest.

RICHARD HALL,
Supt. American Home Missionary Society.

APPENDIX E.

CHURCHES.		MINISTERS.				CHURCH MEMBERS. Sept. 1, 1872.				ADDED, 1871-72.			REMOVED. 1871-72.				BAPTISMS		Whole No. in Sabbath Schools.	CONTRIBUTED TO				
NAMES.	ORGANIZED Ye. Mo. Da	NAMES.	ORDAINED Ye. Mo. Da	Began Labor.	Installed.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Absent.	Profes'n.	Letter.	Total.	Death.	Dismis'n.	Exc'm'n.	Total.	Adults.	Infants.		Foreign work.	Home work.	Other objects.	Church expenses.	Total.
Afton	1858, 6, 24	A. D. Roe	1877, 2, 5	1871		3	12	15		1	2	3				7			50	$24 50	$22 12	$15 00	$ 375 00	$ 436 62
Alexandria	1867, 11, 14	Unsupplied				4	12	16	1							3							85 00	85 00
Anoka	1855, 5, 6	A. K. Packard	1851, 11, 16	1860	1860	27	49	76	12	1	1	2		2		3		2	120	15 56	43 55		2,434 00	2,493 11
Austin	1857, 7, 6	James T. Graves	1871, 4, 13	1871		36	62	98	8	14	12	26	2	4		6	8	6	140	78 90	198 13	171 77	1,875 00	1,843 80
Beaver	1868, 8, 4	Unsupplied				4	7	11	2															
Belle Prairie	1870, 10, 4	W. A. Cutler	1868, 6, 10	1870		4	7	11		1	1	2					1		25	15 00	15 00		100 00	130 00
Brainerd	1872, 8, 13	Samuel Ingham	1869, 6, 4	1872		8	12	20			20	20												
Butternut Valley	1855, 10, 13	Philip Peregrine	1861, 8, 10	1868		11	15	26										2				10 00	1,800 00	1,810 00
Wasioja	1858, 6, 6	Chas. Shedd		1858		5	15	20	3		2	2						1	80			20 00	40 00	60 00
Waverly	1871, 4, 9	O. P. Champlin		1871		5	8	13	1	3	2	5					1						50 00	50 00
Winnebago City	1869, 5, 28	D. McDermid		1872		8	14	22															100 00	100 00
Winona	1854, 12, 10	H. M. Tenney	1868, 10, 21	1870	1870	54	128	182	20	13	10	23	2	12	2	16	4	5	250	374 00	6 60	198 00	2,756 50	3,988 50
Zumbrota	1857, 6, 28	S. H. Barteau	1851, 2, 19	1870	1870	43	68	110	9	7	5	12		4		4		5	200	36 00	78 57	139 40	1,800 00	2,053 97

*No Report.

SUMMARY.

Whole number of churches, 78. Total membership, 3,567. Males, 1,363. Females, 2,204. Number of additions, 522. By profession, 235; letter, 287. Removals—By death, 39; dismission, 176; excommunication, 4; total, 219. Adult baptisms, 93; infant 86. Number in Sunday School 5,015. Benevolent Contributions, $7,374.

RICHARD HALL, *Statistical Secretary.*

APPENDIX F.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. That the churches be recommended to give one collection yearly to the Chicago Theological Seminary, and to secure if possible the constant presence in the Seminary of at least one young man from each church to enjoy the benefit of their gifts.

2d. That the attention of the churches be called to their remissness in so often failing to send delegates to the Conference.

3d. That the attention of the churches be called to the need of better organized methods of parish visitation and of more vigorous efforts to reach the masses.

4th. That the Western Seaman's Friend Society be commended to our churches, especially the churches in the river towns, as worthy of their support.

APPENDIX G.

CARLETON COLLEGE.

Respecting Carleton College, Prest. Strong reported that under God's blessing the past year had been marked by steady progress and prosperity. The new hall has been completed and occupied, and the Ladies' Hall refurnished throughout. A new Preceptress and a new Teacher of Music have been employed, and the boarding department put under the charge of a Matron. Ninety-seven pupils are now enrolled, and others expected.

In January last a valued friend, who witholds his name, donated $5,000 to the general endowment fund, giving permission, however, to use it temporarily as a building fund. A very valuable cabinet, collected by Rev. W. S. Alexander, of Racine, Wis., had been purchased and presented to the College. Friends in Chicago had given $300 towards furnishing the new Hall. Another at the East had pledged a new bell, and Mr. Carleton had proposed to furnish the necessary lamps and chandeliers. The sixteen churches in the State, visited during the year, had responded very cheerfully,

pledging about $8,000, to be paid in quarterly installments within the next five years. Compliance with recommendation of Conference to every church member—to consecrate to the College "two cents a week," or a dollar and four cents per year, was urged —as well as efforts to secure students,—and also personal and prayerful sympathy in the work of building up in this State a Christian College.

Financial condition of Carleton College, Sept. 20, 1872.

ASSETS.

Endowment	$61,080
Buildings and Real Estate	43,464
Bills Receivable	5.943
Furniture account	1,985
Cabinet (estimated)	1,000
Library "	500
Chemical Apparatus (estimated)	760
Notes and pledges	12,504
	$127,236
Deduct indebtedness	16,314
	$110,922

Total receipts from Oct. 15, 1871, *to Oct.* 8, 1872.

Increase of Endowment Fund	$7,750
Interest on " "	5,453
Cash Donations,	4.869
Tuition, &c	2,888
	$20,960

APPENDIX H.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT CARLETON COLLEGE.

The Chairman of the Committee to examine into the condition of Carleton College, regrets to be obliged to report that, with the exception of one half days' attendance by Mr. G. F. Batchelder, no member of the committee was present at any of the examinations, or visited the College officially. He consequently feels much embarrassment from the fear that this report can contain little more than his own individual impressions, gathered from attendance upon the examinations and inquiries into the management of the College.

In respect to the Board of Instructors, the examination showed that, as heretofore, their instruction has evidently been of the most thorough kind. In addition to the former teachers, the permanent faculty was during the year past reinforced by the appointment of Mr. W. W. Payne to a permanent professorship; an experienced teacher, highly qualified, both intellectually and morally, for the position. Of the more recent additions the committee have no personal knowledge; and as their appointment has been made since the close of the year, they do not fall within the province of this report. Nor do the increased facilities afforded since that time, by the completion of the large and commodious new building.

It then only remains to be said that the progress and deportment of the students, the zeal, energy and efficiency of the Faculty, and the enlarged, liberal and advanced policy of the Trus ees, we regard as worthy of all praise, and as fully justifying the expectations of the friends of the College, as expressed in former years. And your committee would urge upon our churches to hold this Institution near their hearts, remembering it continually at the Throne of Grace, and keeping it high among the objects of their benefaction.

In behalf of the Committee,

EDWARD BROWN, *Chairman.*

Resolved, That we rejoice in the good Providence that has thus far attended the efforts to found a College under the care of our denomination in this State. That we express our confidence in the Trustees and the worthy President and Faculty of Carleton College, and that we will not cease to give it our support by our benefactions, our prayers, and our efforts to seek out and send our students to be there educated. That we call the attention of our churches to our former resolution recommending to each church member to contribute the sum of two cents per week towards its funds; and recommending that the College be put upon the list of objects for systematic beneficence.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The review of the history of our denomination in this State for the past year has many cheering signs. Ten new churches have been organized—a larger number than in any former year. Six houses of worship built, or in process of erection. The whole number of churches is 78. Additions to their membership by profession the past year, 235. By letter, 287. Removals, 219.

Number of scholars in Sunday Schools, 5,015. Number of infant baptisms, 86, adult, 93. Amount of benevolent contributions, $7,374, an increase of more than 50 per cent. over those of last year. A plan of systematic benevolence, which has been successfully tested in some of our churches, is to be submitted to the churches of the Conference, with the belief that thus still larger and better offerings, more enjoyed and more effective, may be secured

Additions to College Endowment, $7,750. Of this, $2,750 was obtained from the churches in the State, $5,000 from an Eastern friend. Special donations to the College fund from our churches, during the year, have amounted to $4,869.

Ninety-seven students are in attendance. By liberal offerings received, and the large increase in the list of students, this young College gives evidence of the confidence and interest it has won.

The *frontier advance* of our churches is a marked feature of the year. The two missionaries commissioned to labor along the lines of the Northern Pacific and the Winona and St. Peter Rail Road, have wrought with large success, in gathering new congregations, organizing churches, and securing the erection of houses of worship.

Among the many new sanctuaries, is the Chapel at Brainerd, the gift of the former President of the Northern Pacific R. R., the dedication of which, in November, will witness the organization of the North Pacific Association, to consist of five churches on the line of the road.

The new departure suggested at the Oberlin Council meets the hearty endorsement of the churches of the State. As a result, the Minnesota Home Missionary Society (auxiliary to the Am. Home Mission Society), was organized at Lake City, thus recognizing the fact that the pioneer work in our State lies at the door of our own churches, and that it is our privilege to assume the charge.

Committees, representing the four local conferences, are to keep an eye upon unoccupied ground, to stir up the churches to larger benevolence, and to encourage younger and feebler churches by the interchange of Christian fellowship.

Any evangelical congregation, or church, that for reasons of its own may *eschew* any denominational title, was declared worthy of fellowship and aid.

With gratitude we acknowledge that God has not left us without the witnessing spirit. In some cases marked revivals, and in others constant additions to the churches, leaving testimony to its power.

May that spirit be in the wheels of the new advance, and fill all churches in our young State with its light and love.

C. C. SALTER, *Corresponding Secretary.*

APPENDIX J.

ORDER OF EXERCISES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1872.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—

8½ A. M.—Prayer meeting, led by Rev. R. Hall.

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. C. Cushing, D. D.

3 P. M.—Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Rev. L. C. Gilberto break the bread, and Rev. E. Brown to administer the cup, assisted by Deacons E. B. Daniels, H. Collins, I. C. Stearns and S. S. Beckwith, of Claremont.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. Wm. Walker.

METHODIST CHURCH—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. E. Brown.

4½ P. M.—Sermon to the children. Rev. E. S. Williams.

BAPTIST CHURCH—

10½ A. M.—Sermon. Rev. A. K. Packard.

7 P. M.—Sermon. Rev. A. J. Pike.

APPENDIX K.

OBITUARY OF REV. H. M. CHAPIN.

Two Congregational ministers, both of whom came into this State seeking relief in failing health, have died during the year—Rev. Henry Martyn Chapin and Rev. A. T. Deming.

Bro. Chapin was a son of Rev. Walter Chapin, D. D., of Vermont, who on his deathbed dedicated his son to the gospel ministry, if it might please the Divine will, to the missionary work, and baptized him with the name of Henry Martyn. He was ordained at Ripon, Wis., March 9, 1855, and labored in the gospel ministry at Ripon, Markison, and other places in Central Wisconsin, and had just entered into labor in behalf the Chippewa Indians, at White Earth Agency, when he was called from his labors to his reward, at the age of 47 years.

E. BROWN.

APPENDIX L.

OBITUARY OF REV. A. T. DEMING.

Alonzo T. Deming died at Glyndon, Minnesota, August 17th, 1872, in the 40th year of his age. A graduate of Middlebury College and Andover Seminary, he was a cultivated and thoughtful christian scholar. His christian devotion led him into missionary work at Swanton, Newburg, and other towns in Vermont, where his praise is warm in the churches.

All through his ministry he struggled with a pulmonary difficulty, which finally occasioned his removal to Northfield, in the summer of 1871. The whole christian community soon learned to appreciate the warmth of his heart, and the wisdom of his exhortations, and the College felt the force of his thorough culture, united with such earnest piety. Last spring he joined the Red River Colony, came with enthusiasm to the hardships and toils of pioneering, and was the first minister to break the bread of life to the little company worshipping in a tent. He was very jubilant over a fine farm which he pre-empted and improved, and for a while was able to edit the local paper with acceptance and ability. But there came a reaction, and his sorrowing friends soon saw him fade from their sight. Loving hands smoothed his pillow, and new friends vied with old in showing their respect for a good man. Throngs came to his funeral, and followed to his burial—the first in the new cemetery. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

E. S. WILLIAMS.

APPENDIX M.

ORGANIZATION OF THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

SATURDAY, P. M.—Agreeably to previous notice, the members of Conference assembled at half-past two o'clock, and were called to order by Rev. Edward Brown, of Medford.

Voted, that the Moderator of the Conference be the temporary Chairman of the meeting.

Voted, that Rev. E. M. Williams, of Faribault, be the temporary Scribe.

The Committee previously appointed by the Conference to prepare and report to this meeting a plan of Home Missionary organization, presented a draft for a constitution based upon the constitution adopted by the Illinois Home Missionary Society, which, after various modifications, was adopted, as follows, viz:

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ART. II. The General Congregational Conference, together with all members of the American Home Missionary Society residing within the State, shall be the Society.

ART. III. The object of this Society shall be to co-operate with the American Home Missionary Society in diffusing the gospel; by aiding weak congregations within the State in the support of the ministry; by organizing churches wherever they are needed; by supplying communities destitute of preaching, and by doing the work of Christianization within other States and the Territories.

ART. IV. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor, one or more Superintendents, an Executive Committee of three in each Local Conference, and a Board of Directors.

ART. V. Those officers whose term of office and manner of election are not otherwise provided for, shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve for three years.

ART. VI. The Executive Committees shall be chosen annually by the Society, upon the nomination of the Local Conferences, and on being accepted by the American Home Missionary Society as its agency for the purpose, shall, in council and co-operation with the Superintendent, designate and recommend fields, missionaries and appropriations, both from the American Home Missionary Society and the American Congregational Union; shall care for the general Missionary work within their respective limits; shall hold a

meeting for conference at each gathering of the Local Conference; shall seek to secure young men for the ministry; shall use diligence to increase the contributions of the churches and to hasten the day of self-support among the aided churches; and shall seek to secure such a system of harmonious co-operation with other denominations as shall prevent sectarian jealousy and needless expenditure. Each of the Executive Committee shall also make a written report to the Society, at its annual meeting, of their action, specifying the condition of every aided church within their limits, and the general wants of their field. The Board shall also fill all vacancies that may occur, either in their own body or in the several executive committees.

ART. VII. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Chairmen of the several Executive Committees and two members at large. to be chosen annually by the Society. They shall choose one of their number as Chairman, and another as Secretary, who shall also be the Recording Secretary of the Society; shall hold a session in connection with every meeting of the General Conference, and also upon the call of their Chairman, whenever any exigency may require; shall nominate the Superintendents to the parent Society, which is to appoint and pay them; shall consider the apportionment of men and money, and methods of increasing the supply of both; shall make an annual report to the Society, and in their general oversight shall make to the parent Society such suggestions as they may deem wise.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall receive all money coming into the Society, and shall remit the same every month to the parent Society. He shall also make an annual report to the Society, not only of the money so transmitted, but of that which is acknowledged by the parent Society as coming directly to its treasury from this State.

ART. IX. The Superintendents, in council and co-operation with the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees, and under the instruction of the parent Society, shall give themselves to the work of securing ministers for missionary churches, transmitting and endorsing applications for aid, encouraging the beneficiary churches on to self-support, organizing churches, preaching the Word in destitute communities and among the aided churches, and increasing the contributions to the Society.

ART. X. The usual quarterly and annual reports of the missionaries to the parent Society shall be made in duplicate, and one copy sent to the Superintendent of their respective districts, for the information of the officers of the State Society.

ART. XI. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of all the members

present; *Provided*, the amendment shall have been proposed at the preceding annual meeting, or is recommended by the Board of Directors.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

James W. Strong, D. D., Northfield, *President.*
Wm. Cheney, Esq., Minneapolis, *Treasurer.*
Harlan W. Page, Esq., Austin, *Auditor.*
James W. Strong, D. D., Northfield, } *Directors at Large.*
Rev. Henry Willard, Plainview, }

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.

ANOKA CONFERENCE—
Rev. H. A. Stimson, Minneapolis.
Rev. A. K. Packard, Anoka.
Rev. A. J. Pike, Sauk Centre.

WINONA CONFERENCE—
Rev. A. Fuller, Rochester.
Rev. H. M. Tenny, Winona.
John Edgar, Esq., Rochester.

OWATONNA CONFERENCE—
Rev. E. Brown, Medford.
Rev. A. Morse, Austin.
Rev. E. M. Williams, Faribault.

Discussion then arose on the proposal to elect an Executive Committee for the St. Croix Valley Association. It was finally decided that no nominations from that body were properly before the Society.

The Society was then led in prayer by Rev. H. M. Storrs, D. D., of Brooklyn.

Rev. A. Willey, of Northfield, offered the following resolution, which, after discussion, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we invite the women in our connection throughout the State to unite in forming a Woman's Cent Society, in co-operation with the Minnesota Home Missionary Society, with a membership fee of one cent a week.

It was subsequently announced that in response to the above resolution the women present at the Conference had formed such a Society, and chosen Mrs. E. J. Hart, of Cottage Grove, Treasurer. Report was also made from the Board of Directors that they had elected Rev. E. Brown, Chairman, and Rev. A. Fuller, Secretary, who also became, by this election, Recording Secretary of the Society.

Voted, to adjourn.

A. FULLER, *Recording Secretary.*

OUR PLAN OF SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

To the Members and Congregations of the Congregational Churches :

At the annual meeting of the General Conference of Minnesota, held at Lake City, Oct. 10th, 1872, the following plan was adopted and recommended to the Churches for their benevolent contributions for the coming year:

The plan is based upon two general principles, viz:

1st. Christian giving is an act of worship; honoring the Lord with our substance.

2d. All Christian giving should be systematic, thoughtful, and intelligent.

These principles are believed to be essential to all acceptable offering of our gifts to God; and it is because we feel that they have not been sufficiently recognized in our former methods, that the present plan is presented. This plan proposes a collection *every Sabbath morning;* the amount contributed ordinarily to be divided *pro rata* among the following causes, on the basis of their needs for the ensuing year:

FOR GENERAL CHRISTIAN WORK, IN WHICH ALL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES UNITE:

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, including missions to nominally Christian countries, ($100,000)	$600,000
Home Missionary Society	500,000
American Missionary Association	500,000
Congregational Union (Church Erection)	250,000
Ministerial Education	100,000
Congregational Publishing Society	50,000
	$2,000,000

On certain Sabbaths, however, the contributions will not be so appropriated, but will be devoted to the following

LOCAL OBJECTS:

To THE POOR—The offering at Communion in.....
To THE SABBATH SCHOOL—The offering of.....
To CARLETON COLLEGE—.....
To THE CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.....

[*The above spaces to be filled in with such dates as the individual Churches may determine for these special offerings; and such other local objects to be added as the Churches may desire.*]

After deducting the 12 Sabbaths set apart for local objects as above, there will remain forty Sabbaths on which offerings will be made for the general work of the Church, and apportioned as above stated; it being always remembered (and special attention is called to this feature) that any contribution may be appropriated to *any* special object by attaching to it a slip of paper indicating the wish of the giver; and it

is hoped that the utmost freedom will be exercised in this respect. No personal solicitation is to be used; and every one is free to give *as much, or as little, as he feels able;* only the Lord and the giver will know how much it is.

The following table will illustrate the working of the plan. By examining it, any one can see how to adjust his weekly gifts, in order to make, in the aggregate, any given annual sum; and also how that annual sum will be apportioned, if not specially designated.

Weekly Contributions for 40 Sabbaths.	Annual Aggregate.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	Amer. Miss. Association.	Congr'ga'nal Union.	Ministerial Education.	Publishing Society.
PROPORTIONS.		60/200	50/200	50/200	25/200	10/200	5/200
$ 0 10	$ 4 00	$ 1 20	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 0 50	$ 20	$ 10
20	8 00	2 40	2 00	2 00	1 00	40	20
25	10 00	3 00	2 50	2 50	1 25	50	25
50	20 00	6 00	5 00	5 00	2 50	1 00	50
1 00	40 00	12 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	2 00	1 00
1 50	60 00	18 00	15 00	15 00	7 50	3 00	1 50
2 00	80 00	24 00	20 00	20 00	10 00	4 00	2 00
2 50	100 00	30 00	25 00	25 00	12 50	5 00	2 50
5 00	200 00	60 00	50 00	50 00	25 00	10 00	5 00
10 00	400 00	120 00	100 00	100 00	50 00	20 00	10 00

The plan finds its method in the apostolic injunction, that upon the first day of the week, every one lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." Its success will depend wholly upon the spirit and thoroughness with which it is carried out. In the belief that the churches will enter upon it with spirit and support it with regularity; and that the results will surprise all, it is recommended.

The Deacons are the proper committee to receive the collections and apportion them among the different objects.

By recommendation of the Conference,

H. A. STIMSON,
EDWARD BROWN,
THEODORE FURBER,
Committee of Conference.

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 1, 1872.

Churches desiring copies of this plan for distribution among their members can be supplied at the small price of 50 cents per hundred, and have their local objects printed in without extra charge, by addressing the* REV. H. A. STIMSON, *Minneapolis, Minn.

MINISTERIAL RECORD FOR 1872.

NAMES.	ORDAINED. Ye.	Mo.	Da	PRESENT RELAT'N	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Alden, E. H.	1864,	4,	13.	Mis. A. H. M. S.	Waseca	Owatonna.
Armstrong. R. S.	1856,	10,	6.	Acting Pastor	Hamilton	Winona.
Barnes, J. R.	1838,			Without charge	Zumbrota	"
Barteau, S. H.	1851,	2,	19.	Pastor	Zumbrota	
Brown, Edward	1853,	1,	13.	"	Medford	Owatonna.
Bumstead, Horace	1873,	5,	1.	"	Minneapolis	Northern.
Butler, S. R.	1866,	9.		Acting Pastor	Hutchinson	"
Campbell, Gabriel	1868,	10,	27.	Prof. State Un	St. Anthony	"
Champlin, O. P.	1870,	7,	10.	Acting Pastor	Fairmount.	Owatonna,
Chaney, L. W	1852,			" "	Mankato	
Cutler, Wm. A.	1868,	6,	10.	" "	Little Falls	Northern.
Dada, E, P.	1864.	7,	21.	" "	Mazeppa	
Duren, Charles	1841,	2,		" "	Little Valley	Winona.
Fuller, Americus	1862,	10,	2.	Pastor	Rochester	"
Fuller, F. L.	1843,	9,	8.	Acting Pastor	Saratoga	
Gale, Edmund	1856,	11,	24.	" "	Faribault	Central.
Galpin, Charles	1844,	9,		Without charge	Excelsior	Northern.
Gates, H. N.	1850,	8,	8.	Mis. N. P. R. R.	Detroit City	"
Gilbert, L. C.	1840,	7,	16.	Acting Pastor	East Prairieville	Owatonna.
Graver, James T.	1871,	4,	13.	" "	Austin	"
Grover, N. W.	1868,	7,	3.	" "	Mantorville	"
Hall, Richard	1851,	8,	8.	Supt. A. H. M. S.	St. Paul	Central.
Hall, Sherman	1831,	5,		Acting Pastor	Sauk Rapids	Northern.
Hampton, C. A.	1868,			" "	Princeton	"
Hart, Edwin J.	1856,	1,	2,	Pastor	Cottage Grove	Central.
Hood, Geo. A.	1869,	9,	30.	Acting Pastor	Fergus Falls	
Honeyman, W. E.	1865,			" "	Wabasha	Prest. of Lehigh.
Hunt, N. A.	1846,			Without charge	Sterling	
Ingham, Samuel	1869,	6,	4.	Acting Pastor	Brainerd	
Kellogg, S. H.	1857,	11,	10,	" "	Swansee, Renv.Co	Elgin, Ill.
Lathrop, A. C.	1843,	2,	24.	" "	Glenwood	Northern.
Marshall, C. W.	1871,	2,	22.	" "	Cresco, Iowa	
McDermed, Duncan				" "	Winnebago City	Owatonna,
Merrill, E. W.	1864,	4,	5.	Pastor	Cannon Falls,	Central.
Miles, Geo. H.	1860,			Without charge	Owatonna	Winona.
Morse. Alfred	1847,	6,	7.	Acting Pastor	Austin	Owatonna.
Ollerenshaw, Samuel,	Licentiate.			Mis. A. H. M. S.	Morris	
Packard, A. K.	1851,	11,	16.	Pastor	Anoka	Northern.
Peregrine, Philip	1861,	3,	10.	Acting Pastor	Judson	Welsh of Penn.
Pickett, Cyrus	1867,			" "	St. Cloud	Northern.
Pierce, N. H.	1861,			Without charge	Northfield	Cwatonna.
Pike. A. J.	1859,	3,	9.	Acting Pastor	Sauk Centre	Northern.
Price, John	1851,			Mis. A. H. M. S.	Mountain Lake	
Ray, John W	1858,	1.	28.	Acting Pastor	Lake City	
Ritchie, Geo.	1853,			" "	St. Charles	
Roe, Alva D.	1867,	2,	5.	" "	Afton	Central.
Salter, Charles C.	1859,	4,	11.	" "	Duluth	"
Shedd, Charles	1842,	3,	24.	" "	Wasioja	Owatonna.
Sheldon, Chas B.	1851,	10,	9.	" "	Excelsior	Northern.
Smith, O. M.	1868,	2,	25.	" "	Monticello	"
Snell, Wm. W.	1859,	10,	16.	" "	Rushford	Winona.
Starr, E. C.	1871,	8,	30.	" "	Wascca	Owatonna.
Starr, O. A.	1871,	4,	6.	" "	Montevideo	
Stearns. J. G. D.	1843,	5,	10.	" "	Clearwater	Northern.
Stimson, H. A.	1870,	5,	25.	Pastor	Minneapolis	"
Strong, Jas. W.	1862,	9,	28,	Pres.Carleton Col	Northfield	Owatonna.
Strong, John C.	1846,	11,	16.	Con.with Ind.Mis	Leech Lake.	"
Tenney, H. M.	1868,	10,	21.	Pastor	Winona.	Winona.
Terry, C. M.	1871,	11,	2.	Acting Pastor	St. Paul	Northern.
Tobey, J. F.				" "	Alexandria	"
Todd, J. D	1860,	1,		" "	Granite Falls	Owatonna.
Towle, J. Augustus.	1871,	4,	14.	Pastor	Northfield	
Twichel, Royal,	1842,	1,	12.	Without charge	New Minich.	Northern.
Weld. W. M.	1852,	5,	14.	Acting Pastor	Marine Mills	Central.
Wicks, E. G.	1872,	10,	2.	" "	Glencoe	
Willard, Henry	1858,	10,	20.	" "	Plainview	Winona.
Willey, Austin	1859,	8,	18.	Without charge	Northfield	Owatonna.
Williams, E. M.	1869,	2,	25.	Pastor	Faribault	"
Williams, E. S.	1864,	6,	10.	Acting Pastor	Glyndon	

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the "GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA."

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession and By-Laws; each church being represented by its Pastor, or Stated Supply, and one Delegate; and also of Missionaries in the employ the American Home Missionary Society, engaged in active duty in this State, but not in charge of churches which are members of this Conference.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers, members of any church in this Conference other than the Pastor or Stated Supply, shall be honorary members *ex officio* of the Conference; and other ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body may be invited to sit as honorary members during the session then in progress, and honorary members shall have all the privileges of the Conference, except the right of voting.

ART. 4. All officers of Conference shall be elected by ballot and public nomination, except when otherwise ordered by special vote.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, chosen by ballot, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen by ballot, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen by ballot.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the Second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock, P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual meeting of the Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at a previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Confer-

ence shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse: and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members, to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a temporary Scribe shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates and delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled: after which a Moderator and Scribe (one or more), shall be elected by ballot.

2. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on resolutions, printing and finance.

3. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

4. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

5. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent during the sitting of the Conference.

6. Every church applying for admission to this Conference, shall present, for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

7. After the place of the suceeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution shall be elected.

8. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing, and every motion intended to be incorporated in full in the minutes shall be presented in writing before it is acted on by the Conference.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

10. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee af five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Carleton College, and report at the next meeting.

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All departments are open to students of either sex. Ladies reside with the lady teachers in a separate building, but both sexes meet in all general exercises, are instructed in the same classes, and may take the same degrees. The privileges of the College are offered to all alike, irrespective of race, nationality or denominational preferences, and it is the aim of the Faculty to provide an education *liberal* and *thorough*, embracing *moral* culture as well as mental discipline; and securing a symmetrical Christian character.

FACULTY:

REV. JAMES W. STRONG, D. D.,
President.

HORACE GOODHUE, JR., A. M.,
Professor of the Greek Language and Literature, and Principal of the Preparatory Department

WM. W. PAYNE, A. M.
Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

MISS FANNY M. WARRINER,
Preceptress and Teacher of Modern Languages.

MISS SARAH E. DOW, A. M.,
Teacher of Latin Language and Literature.

MISS MARY E. MILLER,
Teacher of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

MRS. MARY J. BOIES,
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Board in College Building, per week.	$2 75	Use of Piano per term, one hour per day	$2 00
Tuition—Higher English and Classics, per term (average).....	8 00	Room Rent, per term.....	3 00
" Common English, per term (average).....	6 00	Incidentals, per term.....	50
" Instrumental and Vocal Music, per lesson, each.....	50	Heating, in proportion to cost.	

CALENDAR FOR 1873.

Wednesday, Jan. 8th, 1873, Winter Term of 13 weeks begins.

Vacation of one week.

Wednesday, April 16th, Spring Term of 11 weeks begins.

June 30th and July 1st, Anniversary Exercises Vacation of ten weeks.

Wednesday, Sept. 10th, Fall Term of 15 weeks begins.

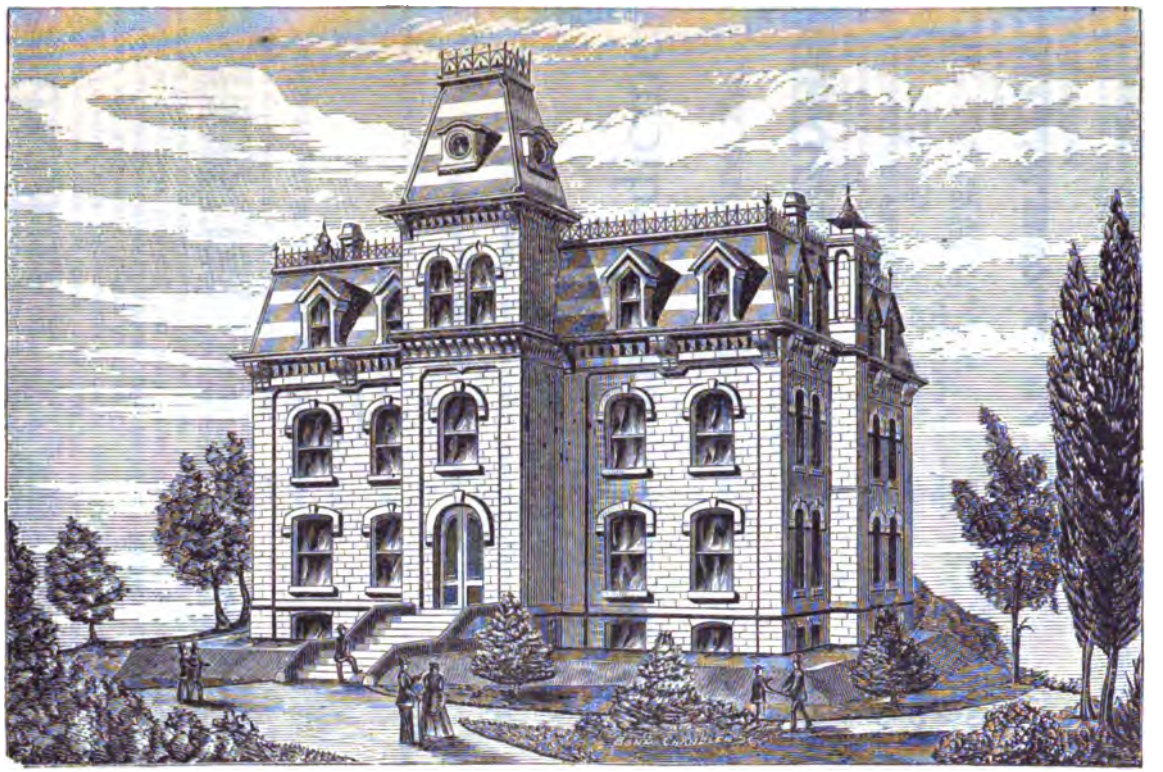
Examinations to enter College, June 28th and Sept. 9th, 1873.

The rooms in the Ladies' Hall are furnished with Stoves, Chairs, Tables, Washstand-Bureaus, Mattresses, and Bedsteads, and those of the new Hall, are supplied with the same, excepting mattresses. *All other furniture must be procured by the occupant.*

A building containing unfurnished rooms for twelve young men, is devoted to those wishing to board themselves. Board can be obtained in the Institution at the price given above, or in private families at reasonable rates.

Correspondence may be directed to

JAS. W. STRONG, President.
Northfield, Minnesota.



CARLETON COLLEGE, NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA.

1873

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

HELD IN ST. PAUL, SEPTEMBER 26, 1873.

MINNEAPOLIS:
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Rev. W. A. CUTLER, *Assistant Scribe.*

Rev. HORACE BUMSTEAD, *Treasurer and Rec. Secretary.*

Rev. N. C. CHAPIN, *Corresponding Secretary.*

Rev. R. HALL, *Statistical Secretary.*

Rev. E. M. WILLIAMS, *Treasurer W. and O. Aid Society.*

Mr. WM. CHENEY, *Auditor.*

MINUTES

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF MINNESOTA.

The General Congregational Conference of Minnesota met in Seventeenth Annual Session, in Plymouth Church, St. Paul, Friday, September 23d, 1873, at 3 o'clock P. M., and was called to order by Rev. C. M. Terry. Rev. E. J. Hall was chosen Temporary Scribe.

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Churches.	*Ministers.*	*Delegates.*
Audubon,	J. S. Webber	
Albert Lea,	S. F. Drew	S. S. Challis.
Alexandria,	W. W. Norton	
Anoka,	A. K. Packard	S. O. Bryant.
Austin,	Henry Ketcham,	Harlan W. Page.
Brainerd,	E. S. Williams	R. M. Newport.
Butternut Valley,	P. Peregrine	
Chain Lake Center,	O. P. Champlin	
Claremont,	Chas. Shedd	S. S. Beckwith.
Clear Water,	J. G. D. Stearns	
Collins,	S. H. Kellogg	
Cottage Grove,	E. J. Hart	Theo. Furber.
Detroit,	J. S. Webber	
Douglass,	E. W. Carver	
Duluth,	C. C. Salter	J. Kimball.
Excelsior,	C. B. Sheldon	
Fairmont,	O. P. Champlin	
Faribault, Plymouth	N. C. Chapin	C. Russell.
Fergus Falls,	G. A. Hood	
Granite Falls,	J. D. Todd	A. J. Luce.
Glenwood,	A. C. Lathrop	
Hamilton,	R. S. Armstrong	Miss Susie Northrup.
Hebron,	P. Peregrine	
Lac qui Parle,	A. O. Starr	

Lake City,	J. W. Ray	M. C. Humphrey.
Lakeland,	A. D. Roe	S. M. Bixby.
Little Falls,	W. A. Cutler	Mrs. S. P. Fuller.
Mankato,	L. W. Chaney	
Mantorville,	N. W. Grover	Mrs. Z. B. Page.
Medford,	E. Brown	N. Williams.
Mower City,	I. F. Tobey	
Minneapolis, Plymouth	H. A. Stimson	Geo. Conant.
Minneapolis, Vine St	H. Bumstead	L. B. Graham.
Montevideo,	O. A. Starr	
Monticello,	O. M. Smith	A. F. Barker.
Northfield,	J. A. Towle	A. Lee.
Owatonna,	N. H. Bell	A. N. Stoughton.
Paynesville,	Geo. Johnson	R. P. Gilbert.
Plainview,	H. Willard	Wm. A. Pell.
East Prairieville,	L. C. Gilbert	
Princeton,		S. Ross.
Quincy,	Thos. Nield	
Rochester,	A. Fullet	A. C. Smith.
Rose Creek,	A. Morse	
Rushford,	W. W. Snell	
Sleepy Eye,	E. H. Alden	
Saratoga,	F. L. Fuller	
Sauk Center,	A. J. Pike	
Sank Rapids,		J. Carpenter.
St. Anthony,	Geo. M. Landon	
St. Charles,	O. Hobbs	R. B. Hall.
St. Cloud,	Cyrus Pickett	
St. Paul,	C. M. Terry	C. E. Dyer.
Waseca,	E. C. Starr	J. L. Claghorn.
Wasioja,	C. Shedd	
Waverly,	O. P. Champlin	
Winona,	H. M. Tenney	J. G. Nind.
Zumbrota,	S. H. Barteau	J. B. Locke.

ALSO

Rev. R. Hall, Superintendent of Missions.
Rev. H. N. Gates, Detroit City.
Rev. C. A. Hampton, Minneapolis.
Rev. J. Cadwalader.

Received under Article 2 of Constitution:

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. A. L. Chapin, D.D., Beloit College.
Rev. William Walker, Gaboón Mission.
Rev. H. Ficke, Dubuque, Iowa.
Rev. H. A. Miner, Wisconsin.
Rev. Geo. T. Ladd, Wisconsin.
Rev. D. C. Curtiss, Wisconsin.
Rev. W. H. Cross, Wisconsin.
Rev. M. Kilbourne, Wisconsin.
Rev. L. L. Radcliff, Wisconsin
Rev. R. Quaife, Wisconsin.
Rev. A. Doremus, Illinois.
Rev. F. Bascom, Illinois.
Rev. R. B. Howard, Illinois.

Rev. H. S. Deforest, Illinois.
Rev. Geo. L. Roberts, Illinois.
Rev. Levi Fay, Ohio.
Rev. G. L. Gleason, Massachusetts.
Rev. D. Sherrill, Illinois.
Rev. W. E. Catlin, Illinois.
Rev. H. Foote, Illinois.
Rev. L. H. Cobb, Vermont.
Rev. E. Adams, Superintendent of Missions, Northern Iowa.
Rev. Palmer Litts, Iowa.
Rev. Philo Canfield, Iowa.
Rev. B. A. Dean, Iowa.
Rev. Wm. Leavitt, Iowa.
Rev. J. E. Roy, D.D, Superintendent of Missions, Illinois.
Rev. Geo. D. Wycoff, Illinois.
Rev. D. L. Furber, Massachusetts.
Rev. T. H. Hawks, D.D., Ohio.
Rev. A. Little, Wisconsin.
Rev. A. Hazen, India.
Rev. H. L. Riggs, Dakota Mission.
Rev. N. Beach, Connecticut.
Rev. J. W. Strong, D.D., Carleton College.
Rev. A. Willey, Minneapolis.
Rev. J. H. Babbitt, Vermont.
Rev. G. W. Barnum.
Rev. Geo. Fay.
Rev. M. L. Eastman.
Rev. J. F. Dudley.
Rev. H. M. Storrs, D.D., Sec'y Am. Home Miss. Soc'y, New York.

After the members were enrolled, Conferenee permanently organized by electing Harlan W. Page, Esq., Moderator and Rev. C. A. Hampton, Scribe.

The Moderator appointed as Nominating Committee, Revs. Brown, Strong, Salter, Tenney and Pike.

Rev. L. W. Chaney was appointed to fill vacancy on the Business Committee occasioned by the absence of Rev. E. M. Williams.

Rev. R. S. Armstrong and Bro. C. E. Dyer were added to the Committee of Arrangements.

In response to the vote choosing honorary members, addresses were made by Rev. A. L. Chapin, D.D., Rev. J. E. Roy, D.D., Rev. Geo. T. Ladd and Rev. D. L. Furber.

The Nominating Committee made a report, which was accepted. [Appendix A.]

Adjourned to 7 o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

A sermon was preached by Rev. H. M. Tenney, from Phil. 2: 15, 16.

At the close of the services, Rev. C. M. Terry, Chairman of the Committee appointed to visit Carleton College, read a report, which was accepted [Appendix B.] and referred to a special committee, consisting of the Moderator together with Revs. H. A. Stimson and H. M. Tenney.

Adjourned to Saturday morning, 8:30 A. M.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises occupied the first half hour.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was accepted. [Appendix C.]

The Treasurer *pro tem.* of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society presented a report, which was accepted. [Appendix D.]

The Committee on Temperance made a verbal report, which was followed by a discussion of the subject by Prof. R. F. Worthington and Rev. R. S. Armstrong.

Voted, That the subject be referred to a special committee.

Rev. H. A. Stimson, Chairman of the Committee on Systematic Beneficence, made a report, which was accepted. [Appendix E.]

Voted, That the thanks of the Conference be extended to the Chairman of this Committee for the manner in which he has performed his duty, and that the committee be requested to continue their efforts in the future.

The Conference then met in session as the Minnesota Home Missionary Society. [See page 11.]

After the Society meeting, the Business Committee recommended a new By Law as By Law No. 2. Adopted. [See By Laws.]

Voted, That the Scribe procure an assistant if needed.

The Moderator being called home, it was

Voted, That the Scribe be authorized to cast the ballot of Conference for Rev. H. N. Gates to take his place.

Adjourned to 2 P. M.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises led by Rev. W. A. Cutler.

Rev. R. B. Howard of Illinois, presented the cause of the American Missionary Association, and was followed by Rev. M. L. Eastman on the same subject.

Rev. C. C. Salter read an essay on "The Church of the Future."

Voted, That Rev. C. B. Sheldon be requested to prepare an obituary notice of Rev. Chas. Galpin to be inserted in the Minutes. [Appendix F.]

The Committee on Reception of Churches reported applications from the Churches at Granite Falls and Sleepy Eye, and it was

Voted That these Churches be received and their representatives be invited to seats in this Conference.

Rev. J. W. Strong, D.D., presented his annual report of Carleton College. [Appendix G.]

The committee to whom was referred the report of the committee to visit Carleton College, presented the following resolution, which was accepted and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to secure in the State an endowment for a Professorship of Natural Science in Carleton College, and that this committee consist of Rev. H. M. Tenney of Winona, and Messrs. D. R. Noyes of St. Paul, and D. C. Bell of Minneapolis.

At the close of a session of the Minnesota Home Missionary Society Conference adjourned to 7 o'clock P. M.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

The Conference was opened with prayer, singing and responsive reading, followed by a discussion of the subject, "Responsive Reading."

Rev. G. S. F. Savage, D.D., spoke in behalf of Chicago Theological Seminary.

A discussion upon the subject of Church Finances was introduced by Bro. J. W. L. Corning.

Rev. H. M. Storrs, D.D., addressed the Conference in behalf of the American Home Missionary Society.

Rev. E. H. Alden spoke of his work in the region west of New Ulm.

Rev. H. N. Gates gave an account of his labors along the Northern Pacific Railroad.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Place and Preacher, Winona was chosen as the place for holding the next Conference, and Rev. C. M. Terry for preacher with Rev. W. W. Norton as alternate.

Adjourned until after the meeting of the Minnesota Home Missionary Society on Monday.

ORDER OF SERVICES, SUNDAY SEPT. 28, 1873.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

9:30 A. M.—Missionary Experience meeting, led by Rev. Henry Willard.

10:30 A. M.—Sermon; Rev. H. M. Storrs.

3 P. M.—Communion Service; Rev. C. C. Salter and Rev. A. Fuller officiating.

7:30 P. M.—Missionary meeting; Addresses by Rev. Wm. Walker, Rev. A. L. Riggs, Rev. J. E. Roy, D.D., and Rev. Daniel Lindley, D.D.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

10:30 A. M.—Sermon; Rev. J. W. Strong, D.D.

HOUSE OF HOPE.

10:30 A. M.—Sermon; Rev. R. B. Howard.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Conference met after the Home Missionary Society.

Rev. E. Brown read the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That we recognize the manifest blessing of God during the past year upon Carleton College, in its material prosperity, the successful administration of its affairs, and the gracious presence of His Spirit; and we earnestly commend it to the prayerful sympathy of the Churches.

Resolved, That we urge upon the committee appointed on the endowment of a chair of Natural Science, efficient action in pressing the need upon Christians and friends of Education in the State.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, That the effort to bring the Christian press into this State should receive the ready co-operation of all Christian people.

Resolved, That the *Christian Citizen* has its birth at this favored time, and must grow up in the advocacy of the blessed object of Christian Union, and that we will stand by it for its support.

Rev. R. Hall, Statistical Secretary, made his report, which was accepted. [Appendix H.]

Rev. H. Bumstead was elected Treasurer and Recording Secretary.

Rev. C. C. Salter offered his resignation as Corresponding Secretary, which was accepted, and Revs. Brown, Packard and Pike were appointed a committee to nominate a successor.

Bro. Wm. Cheney, of Minneapolis, was elected Auditor.

Bro. A. Lee was elected Auditor *pro tem.* of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society.

Voted, That the statistical blanks be so printed as to include the six co-operative societies in separate columns.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was accepted, and the resolutions adopted. [Appendix I.].

Rev. N. C. Chapin being nominated for Corresponding Secretary, he was elected.

Rev. C. C. Salter offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That we approve the action of the State Home Missionary Society looking toward such consultation with other branches of the Church of Christ as shall promote Christian harmony.

Resolved, That we greet the signs of larger union in the Church of our Lord, anticipate with gladness the time when the experience of all the divisions of the Church may be so combined as to satisfy the just desires of all the disciples of Christ, and avoid profitless competition.

A resolution of thanks to the people of St. Paul, for their hospitality, was adopted.

Rev. A. K. Packard presented the report of the Committee on Infant Baptism, which was accepted.

Rev. C. C. Salter made his report as Corresponding Secretary; accepted and adopted. [Appendix K.]

Adjourned.

HARLAN W. PAGE, *Moderator.*
C. A. HAMPTON, } *Scribes.*
W. A. CUTLER, }
HORACE BUMSTEAD, *Rec. Sec.*

MINUTES

OF THE

Minnesota Home Missionary Society.

SATURDAY, Sept. 27, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Society was called to order by the President, Rev. J. W. Strong, D.D.

The report of the Treasurer was presented, and with some mendment, adopted, as follows:

Cash received from the Churches,.....	$364.66	
Cash forwarded by draft to Am. H. M. Society.....		$353.05
Cash on hand.....		11.61
	$364.66	$364.66
Receipts from Churches in this State acknowledged in Home Missionary.....	1225.97	
	$1590.63	

Rev. R. Hall, State Superintendent of Missions, made a report [Appendix L,] which was accepted and referred to a special committee consisting of Revs. Barteau, Roe, Salter, Shedd, and Sheldon.

The Board of Directors presented their report through the Secretary. Accepted and referred to the special committee above named.

Reports from the Executive Committees of the local Conferences were then presented and accepted as follows:

Report from Anoka Conference, Rev. A. J. Pike.

Report from Winona Conference, Rev. A. Fuller.

Report from Owatonna Conference, Rev. E. Brown.

Report from Northern Conference, Rev. H. M. Gates.

On motion of Rev. W. W. Norton the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be instructed to welcome the Minnesota member of the Home Missionary Committee of the St. Croix Valley Convention, as an honorary member of their body.

Adjourned to 3:45 P. M.

SATURDAY, 3:45 P. M.

The Society met according to adjournment; opening prayer by Rev. C. C. Salter.

A paper was presented by the Board of Directors proposing a plan designed to promote harmony between this Society and the Presbyterian Home Missionary Board, in the prosecution of their respective interests.

After discussion the paper was recommitted to the Board for modification.

The report of the special committee to whom were referred the reports of the Superintendent and Board of Directors, was presented by Rev. A. D. Roe, and after discussion and modification, was adopted. [Appendix M.]

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

PRESIDENT—James W. Strong, D.D.
TREASURER—Wm. Cheney, Esq.
AUDITOR—Harlan W. Page, Esq.
} Elected in 1872, and holding office for three years.

DIRECTORS AT LARGE—Rev. N. C. Chapin, Rev. R. Hall.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES.

Anoka Conference—Rev. H. A. Stimson, Rev. A. K. Packard, Rev. A. J. Pike.
Northern Conference—Rev. H. N. Gates, Rev C. C. Salter, Rev. E. S. Williams.
Owatonna Conference—Rev. E. Brown, Rev. A. Morse, Rev. L. W. Chaney.
Winona Conference—Rev. A. Fuller, Rev. J. W. Ray, Rev. H. M. Tenney.
St. Croix Valley Convention—Rev. E. J. Hart, honorary member of Board of Directors.

The report of the Woman's Cent Society was read by Rev. J. A. Towle, showing as the result of the first year, an income of $139.00.

Adjourned to 9 A. M. Monday.

MONDAY, Sept. 29, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment.

Opening prayer by Rev. H. Foote.

Brief addresses by Rev. H. C. Hitchcock, Rev. M. L. Eastman, and Rev. H. Foote.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Board of Directors reported a substitute for the paper previously recommitted to, them. After full discussion this paper was recommitted, and the following resolution, presented by Rev. A. J. Pike, was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be a committee to confer with any authorized committee of any evangelical denomination in regard to the union and economy of Christian work in this State, and that any plan they may accept shall be recommended to the Executive Committee in New York, for the instruction of its superintendents and agents in this State.

The Board of Directors recommended an amendment to the Constitution by inserting in Art. VII. after the word "shall" and before the word "nominate" the words "in case of vacancy."

After a brief discussion the amendment was adopted by a two-thirds vote. [See Constitution.]

After prayer by Rev. H. M. Storrs, D.D., the Society adjourned.

A. FULLER, *Sec'y.*

APPENDICES.

Appendix A.

COMMITTEES.

On Place and Preacher.—Revs. A. D. Roe, H. M. Tenney and Bro. J. Carpenter.

On Resolutions.—Revs. A. Fuller, J. S. Webber, H. Willard, and Bros. J. B. Locke and R. M. Newport.

On Finance and Printing.—Revs. H. Bumstead, C. M. Terry, Dea. A. Lea.

To Visit Carleton College.—Revs. N. C. Chapin, D. Burt, J. W. Ray, E. M. Williams, Prof. R. F. Humiston.

On Business for next Annual Meeting.—Revs. A. Fuller, H. Willard, J. W. Ray.

On Arrangements and Devotional Exercises.—Revs. H. M. Tenney, W. W. Snell, Bro. Wm. H. Laird.

On Reception of Churches.—Revs. R. Hall, H. N. Gates, E. H. Alden.

On Systematic Beneficence.—Revs. H. A. Stimson, E. Brown, Bro. T. Furber.

Appendix B.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO VISIT CARLETON COLLEGE.

The Committee have attended the examinations at the close of each term and find in the school a growing enthusiasm for culture, an earnest and scholarly spirit that augurs well for the future of the Institution. They observed with pleasure the presence of quite a large number of Christian students whose example and influence have been felt in the social and religious life of the College. The Report of President Strong exhibits the financial condition of the College, and while we rejoice in its progress in this direction, we cannot but be impressed at each visit with the fact that the great thing which the College needs to-day is a still larger endowment. The rapidly increasing educational wants of the State are being met by other agencies than ours, and attractions are being held out which will draw

students directly away from the halls of Carleton unless it is provided with new professorships, and more extensive means of culture. The same agencies that are so effective in other departments of progress, need to be taken into consideration in building colleges in corresponding lines. The best equipped railroad carries the most passengers and freight, and just so the best equipped college; the college furnished with a corps of trained teachers; the college in cabinets enjoying the prestige of new discoveries; the college whose very atmosphere is literary, or whose name is synonymous with the most recent scientific researches—*that* is the college to which students will always throng, and which will lead the intellectual life of the State. The Committee do not doubt that the worthy President of Carleton and his associates are striving to realize a perhaps better ideal than is here sketched; but if they succeed they must have the cordial sympathy, and still larger and continued pecuniary help from the churches of the State. The College must not simply have our prayers, but it must have our sons and daughters and our dollars for years to come. In the opinion of the Committee, there is a pressing demand for a Chair of Physical Science at once, and they feel that they cannot close their report better than by recommending that this Conference take measures immediately looking to the early endowment of this Chair.

C. M. TERRY,
E. BROWN,
J. A. TOWLE,
E. SMITH,
G. CAMPBELL.
} *Committee.*

Appendix C.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Minnesota State Conference in account with H. A. Stimson, Treasurer.

1872.		Dr.	
Oct. 10.	To bill Richard Hall, blanks, &c	$	3 75
1873.			
Jan. 23	" Johnson & Smith, "Minutes,"	122	00
"	" " " "Plans of Benef."	16	80
March 18.	" " " " "	2	00
Sept. 18.	" " " Circulars	2	00
Postage and express		11	85
	Balance	189	64
		$348	04

1872.	Contra Cr.		
Oct. 12.	By balance	$ 48	00
1873.			
Sept. 26.	By tax paid by churches	127	65
"	" advertisements in Minutes	140	00
"	" sale of "Plans of Beneficence,"	19	25
"	" Interest account to date	13	14
		$348	04

Sept. 26, 1873. Balance $189 64

Minneapolis, Sept. 26th, 1873.

H. A. STIMSON, Treasurer.

Appendix D.

The Widows and Orphans' Aid Society in account with J. A. Towle, Treasurer pro tem.

CASH ACCOUNT.

1872.	Dr.	1872.	Cr.
Oct. 10. To collection Lake City	$39 50	Oct. 14. By cash, Mrs. Bigelow	$15 00
" 31. Interest	50	Nov. 1. By loan 1st Nat'l Bank of Faribault, 12 per cent	25 00
Dec. 4. Cash, C. Shedd	1 00	Dec. 10. By loan Bank of Austin, 10 per cent	150 00
" 9. To inte'st on note W. B. Dada	12 25	" 12. By loan G. F. Batchelder, 10 per ct.	50 00
" 10. To Austin Nat'nl Bank, paid note $64, interest $16 32	80 32	" 19. By loan Bank of Northfield 1 year 12 per cent	100 00
" 10. To Austin Nat'nl Bank, paid note $85, interest $20	105 00	1873.	
" 11. To cash O. W. Shaw	00	Feb 17. By cash, Mrs. Bigelow	25 00
" 12. To cash	03	Sept. 22. By cash, Mrs. Bigelow	50 00
" 19. To B'k of Northfield, paid note $89, interest $11 85	100 85	" 25. By cash on hand	45
1873.			
Feb. 17. To First Nat'nal Bank Faribault, paid note $25, interest $1,	26 00		
Sept. 22. Bank of Northfield, paid on note	45 00		
	$415 45		$415 45

Northfield, Sept. 30, 1873.
Examined and found correct.

ANDREW LEE, Auditor *pro tem.*

Assets Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society, Sept. 25, 1873.

Advance stock	$100 00
Note of E. Brown, $25, int. Oct. 12, 2 years, 12 per cent	31 00
" " W. B. Dada, $100, int. Oct. 14, 1 year, 12 per cent	112 00
" " Bank of Northfield, $100, int. Oct. 16, 10 months 12 per cent, $45 paid	64 64
" " Bank of Austin, $150, int. Oct. 9, 10 months, 10 pr ct	162 50
" " Geo. F. Batchelder, $50, int Oct. 12, 10 mos., 10 pr ct	54 17
Cash	45
Total	$524 76

Appendix E.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

After the adjournment of the Conference last year the committee caused to be printed copies of the Plan of Systematic Giving as adopted by the Conference, and supplied them to such churches as applied for them at the rate of 50 cents per hundred. A month ago the committee further prepared a circular consisting of a series of questions addressed to the churches of the Conference, as follows:

1. Have you adopted the plan recommended by the Conference, in whole or in part?
2. Have you contributed to all the six societies during the year ending August 1st? If so, how much?
3. If not, to which have you given, and what amount?.
4. What is the system of beneficence in operation with you?
5. What is the aggregate of your beneficent contributions to all objects, for the year ending August 1st? (Approximately.)
6. How does it compare with that of previous years?
7. Have you any suggestions to make as to Plans of Giving?
8. What relation is observable between the contributions of your church and its religious condition?
9. If you do not object, will you please tell how your current expenses, including the pastor's salary, are provided for, and if the method is satisfactory?

Of the seventy-eight churches of the Conference, forty-one have responded, and from these responses the committee gathers the following facts: twelve churches have adopted the plan wholly; four have adopted it with slight modifications; six churches take annual collections for the societies, and nineteen have no plan of beneficence at all.

The forty-one churches above mentioned report an aggregate of beneficent contributions for the year ending August first of $8,603.56, an increase of $1,229.56 over the entire contributions of the whole Conference last year, and an increase of $2,715.82, or 46 per cent. over the contributions of the same forty-one churches last year. Eight churches which gave nothing last year, are now giving. Every church which has adopted the Plan of Systematic Giving reports it a success. One pastor says "the Plan delights us so far as we have given it a trial, and its adoption is a triumph over the hitherto conservative policy of the church."

A number of the churches which have not yet adopted the Plan, announce their intention to do so the coming year. The unanimous testimony upon the relation existing between the contributions of a church and its religious condition is that of cause and effect. "The active christians give the best," says one; "chiefly from the most religious," says another; "a direct ratio," says a third.

Though the last question asked in the circular is not properly with-

in the province of the committee, the answers to it show that the system of providing for current expenses adopted by any church has a most intimate connection with its beneficence. If the system is imperfect and inadequate, sooner or later it is sure to curtail the amount of the benevolent contributions and to rob them of their spiritual significance. The committee regrets to report that in most cases the financial systems of the churches of the Conference are reported as unsatisfactory, and in only too many cases we are forced to add, shiftless. We recommend to the Conference a special discussion of this subject, in the hope of inaugurating a better and healthier condition of things. All that was hoped for from our Plan of Beneficence seems to have been accomplished, and we recommend its support by the whole strength of the Conference.

Respectfully,

H. A. STIMSON,
EDWARD BROWN,
THEODORE FURBER. } *Committee.*

OUR PLAN OF SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

To the Members and Congregations of the Congregational Churches:

At the annual meeting of the General Conference of Minnesota, held at Lake City, Oct. 10th, 1872, the following plan was adopted and recommended to the churches for their benevolent contributions for the coming year:

The plan is based upon two general principles, viz:

1st. Christian giving is an act of worship; honoring the Lord with our substance.

2d. All Christian giving should be systematic, thoughtful, and intelligent.

These principles are believed to be essential to all acceptable offering of our gifts to God; and it is because we feel that they have not been sufficiently recognized in our former methods, that the present plan is presented. This plan proposes a collection *every Sabbath morning;* the amount contributed ordinarily to be divided *pro rata* among the following causes, on the basis of their needs for the ensuing year:

FOR GENERAL CHRISTIAN WORK, IN WHICH ALL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES UNITE:

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, including missions to nominally Christian countries, ($100,000)	$600,000
Home Missionary Society	500,000
American Missionary Association	500,000
Congregational Union (Church Erection)	250,000
Ministerial Education	100,000
Congregational Publishing Society	50,000
	$2,000,000

On certain Sabbaths, however, the contributions will not be so appropriated, but will be devoted to the following

LOCAL OBJECTS:

To THE POOR—The offering at Communion in.....
To THE SABBATH SCHOOL—The offering of.....
To CARLETON COLLEGE—.....
To THE CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—

[*The above spaces to be filled in with such dates as the individual Churches may determine for these special offerings; and such other local objects to be added as the Churches may desire.*]

After deducting the twelve Sabbaths set apart for local objects as above, there will remain forty Sabbaths on which offerings will be made for the general work of the Church, and apportioned as above stated; it being always remembered (and special attention is called to this feature) that any contribution may be appropriated to *any* special object by attaching to it a slip of paper indicating the wish of the giver; and it is hoped that the utmost freedom will be exercised in this respect. No personal solicitation is to be used; and every one is free to give *as much, or as little, as he feels able;* only the Lord and the giver will know how much it is.

The following table will illustrate the working of the plan. By examining it any one can see how to adjust his weekly gifts, in order to make, in the aggregate, any given annual sum; and also how that annual sum will be apportioned, if not specially designated.

Weekly Contributions for 40 Sabbaths.	Annual Aggregate.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	Amer. Miss. Association.	Congr'ga'nal Union.	Ministerial Education.	Publishing Society.
PROPORTIONS.		60/200	50/200	50/200	8/200	10/200	5/200
$ 0 10	$ 4 00	$ 1 20	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 0 50	$ 0 20	$ 0 10
20	8 00	2 40	2 00	2 00	1 00	40	20
25	10 00	3 00	2 50	2 50	1 25	50	25
50	20 00	6 00	5 00	5 00	2 50	1 00	50
1 00	40 00	12 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	2 00	1 00
1 50	60 00	18 00	15 00	15 00	7 50	3 00	1 50
2 00	80 00	24 00	20 00	20 00	10 00	4 00	2 00
2 50	100 00	30 00	25 00	25 00	12 50	5 00	2 50
5 00	200 00	60 00	50 00	50 00	25 00	10 00	5 00
10 00	400 00	120 00	100 00	100 00	50 00	20 00	10 00

The plan finds its method in the apostolic injunction, that upon the first day of the week, every one lay by him in store as God hath

prospered him. Its success will depend wholly upon the spirit and thoroughness with which it is carried out. In the belief that the Churches will enter upon it with spirit and support it with regularity, and that the results will surprise all, it is recommended.

The Deacons are the proper committee to receive the collections and apportion them among the different objects.

By recommendation of the Conference.

H. A. STIMSON,
EDWARD BROWN,
THEODORE FURBER,
} *Committee of Conference.*

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 1, 1872.

Churches desiring copies of this plan for distribution among their members, can be supplied at the small price of fifty cents per hundred, and have their local objects printed in without extra charge, by addressing the REV. H. A. STIMSON. *Minneapolis, Minnesota.*

Appendix F.

OBITUARY OF REV. CHARLES GALPIN,

CHARLES GALPIN died at Excelsior, November 1st, 1872. Bro. Galpin spent his youth at Elyria, Ohio. Here, too, after he had attained his majority, while engaged in business, he became interested in religion, and was led to turn his attention to the ministry.

He pursued a collegiate course at Western Reserve College, and studied Theology at Oberlin, attending, also, a course of lectures at Union Theological Seminary.

After completing his studies he engaged temporarily in teaching at Jackson, Michigan. Subsequently he was employed as tutor in Hillsdale College, Michigan, and received also an appointment as Professor of Mathematics in that institution. About this time he was appointed delegate to the World's Evangelical Alliance held in London, in 1845, which he attended.

This visit made a life-long impression upon him, and did much to shape his future course. Upon his return he resigned his professorship, and devoted himself to the work of the ministry, for two years, dividing his labors between the churches at Lagoo and Huntingdon, Indiana, and afterwards preaching successively at Leverett, Prescott, and Centerville, Mass., and West Stafford, Conn. In 1853 he joined a colony formed in Brooklyn, N. Y., which settled the village of Excelsior, Minnesota. Here he formed a church on the same basis as the Evangelical Alliance, which he had conceived as admirably adapted to new communities. To this church he ministered two years and a half; since which time till his death he resided at Excelsior, engaged for the most part in secular pursuits, though often preaching to supply vacancies, and always interested and active in promoting the religious and educational interests of the community in which he lived, where his loss is deeply felt.

C. B. SHELDON.

Appendix G.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF CARLETON COLLEGE.

President Strong reported that the last academic year had been one of material prosperity and spiritual blessing. The religious atmosphere had been healthful and stimulating. Not a single case of unpleasant discipline had occurred. The number of students had been fifty per cent. larger than during any preceding year.

Financial Statement for the Year Ending July 1st, 1873.

RECEIPTS.

Tuition,	$ 2,971.85
Interest on Endowment,	5,365.62
Payments on Notes and Subscriptions,	4,680.55
Donations by Churches, S. Schools and a few Individuals,	754.54
Donation for Philosophical Instruments,	350.00
Donation of Miss Willis, to pay Debt on New Hall,	10,000.00
To Increase Endowment,	7,340.00
Total,	$31,462.56

EXPENDITURES.

On Indebtedness, (Willis Hall)	$8,400.00
On Completing Willis Hall,	8,107.33
On Repairs, &c., on Buildings,	349.91
On Grounds,	379.65
For Furniture,	1,047.34
For Instruments,	25.25
Interest paid,	1,003.74
Current Expenses—Salaries,	6,201.50
" " Incidentals—Insurance, &c.,	3,422.32
Total,	$28,937.04

In addition to the amounts given above more than twelve hundred dollars were received during the year from private sources, in aid of needy and deserving students—preference to be given to the sons and daughters of home missionaries. It was announced that a friend of the College had pledged the sum of ten thousand dollars, to be held in trust by the Board, and the income to be appropriated in aid of students designing to enter the Christian ministry. The donor pays interest on this sum dating from January 1, 1873.

President Strong spoke of the need of enlargement, and especially of the endowment of a Professorship of Natural Sciences. He made an earnest appeal for the prayerful sympathy and co-opertion of the Churches.

Appendix H.

CHURCH REGISTER FOR 1873.

MINISTERIAL RECORD FOR 1873.

NAMES.	ORDAINED. Yr. Mo. Da.	PRESENT RELAT'N	P. O. ADDRESS.	ASSOCIATION.
Alden, E. H..	1864, 4, 13.	Miss. A. H. M. S.	Waseca	Owatonna.
Armstrong, R. S.	1856 10, 6.	Acting Pastor.	Hamilton	Winona
Barnes, J. R.	1838,	Without Charge.	Zumbrota	"
Barteau, S. H	1851, 2, 19,	Pastor.	"	"
Brown, Edward	1853, 1, 13.	"	Medford	Owatonna.
Bumstead, Horace	1872, 5, 1.	"	Minneapolis	Northern
Burt, David..	1851, 11, 4.	Co. Sup. C. Sch's	Winona	Winona
Cadwallader, John	1862,		Lake City	
Campbell, Gabriel	1864, 10, 27.	Prof. State Univ.	Minneapolis, E. D.	Northern..
Champlin, O. P.	1870, 7, 10,	Acting Pastor.	Fairmount	Owatonna.
Chaney, L. W	1852,	" "	Mankato	South'n Minnesota
Chapin, N. C.	1851, 11, 2	" "	Faribault	LaCrosse Dist.Con.
Cutler, W. A	1868, 6, 10.	" "	Little Falls	Northern..
Dada, E. P.	1864, 7, 21.	" "	Mazeppa	Far. Association
Drew, S. F	1857,	" "	Albert Lea	
Fonda, J. L	1873, 9, 16.	" "	Morris	Winona
Fuller, Americus	1862, 10, 2.	Pastor.	Rochester	Elgin Ass. Illinois.
Fuller, F. L	1843, 9, 8	Acting Pastor.	Saratoga	Northern.
Gates. H. N.	1850, 8, 8.	Miss. N. P. R. R.	Detroit	Owatonna.
Gilbert, L. C.	1840, 7, 16.	Acting Pastor.	E. Prairieville	"
Grover, N. W	1868, 7, 3.	" "	Mantoreille	Northern
Hall, Richard	1850, 8, 8.	Act. Su. A.H.M.S.	St. Paul	"
Hall, Sherman.,	1831, 5,	Acting Pastor.	Sauk Rapids	"
Hampton, C. A.	1868,	" "	Minneapolis	"
Hart, E. J.	1856, 1, 2.	stor.	Cottage Grove.	"
Hobbs, Obadiah..		Acting Pastor.	St. Charles	
Hood, Geo. A	1869, 9, 30.	" "	Fergus Falls	Ontario Ass. N. Y

Hunt, N. A	1846,	Without Charge.	Sterling
Johnson, Geo	1872, 11, 13.	Acting Pastor.	Paynesville
Ingham, Saml	1869, 6, 4.	Without Charge.	Brainerd
Kellogg, S. H	1857, 11, 10.	Acting Pastor.	Swansea, Renv. Co.
Ketchum, H			Austin
Landon, Geo. M	1868,	Acting Pastor.	Minneapolis, E. D.
Lathrop, A. C	1843, 2, 24.	" "	Glenwood
Merrill, E. W	1864, 4, 5.	Pastor.	Cannon Riv. Falls.
Morse, Alfred	1847, 6, 7.	Acting Pastor.	Austin
Norton, W. W	1858,	" "	Alexandria
Ollerenshaw, Saml	1873, 4, 2.	" "	Princeton
Packard, A. K	1851, 11, 16.	Pastor.	Anoka
Peregrine, Philip	1861, 3, 10.	Acting Pastor.	Judson
Pickett, Cyrus	1867,	" "	St. Cloud
Pierce, N. H	1861,	Without Charge.	Minneapolis.
Pike, A. J	1859, 3, 9.	Acting Pastor.	Sauk Centre
Ray, J. W	1858, 1, 28.	Pastor.	Lake City
Roe, A. D	1867, 2, 5.	Acting Pastor.	Afton
Salter, C. C	1869, 4, 11.	Pastor.	Duluth
Shedd, Chas	1842, 3, 24.	Acting Pastor.	Wasioja
Sheldon, C. B	1851, 10, 9,	" "	Excelsior
Smith, O. M	1863, 2, 25.	" "	Monticello
Snell, W. W	1859, 10, 16.	" "	Rushford
Spaulding, Geo	1848,	" "	Marshall
Starr, E. C	1871, 3, 30.	" "	Waseca
Starr, O. A	1871, 4, 6.	" "	Montevideo
Stearns, J. G. D	1843, 5, 10,	" "	Clearwater
Stimson, H. A	1870, 5, 25.	Pastor.	Minneapolis
Strong, Jas. W., D. D	1869, 9, 28.	Pres. Carl. Coll.	Northfield.
Strong, J. C	1846, 11, 16.	Without Charge.	Silver Lake
Tenney, H. M	1848, 10, 21.	Pastor.	Winona
Terry, C. M	1871, 11, 2.	"	St. Paul
Tobey, I. F	1873, 7, 17.	Acting Pastor.	Brownsdale
Todd, J. D	1860, 1,	" "	Granite Falls
Towle, J. A	1871, 4, 14.	Pastor.	Northfield
Twichell, Royal	1842, 1, 12.	Without Charge.	New Munich
Webber, J. S	1872, 8, 18.	Acting Pastor.	Detroit
Weld, Wm. M	1858, 5, 14.	" "	Marine Mills
Wicks, E. G	1872, 10, 2.	" "	Glecnoe
Willard, Henry	1858, 10, 20.	" "	Plainview
Willey, Austin	1859, 5, 18.	Edt'r Ch. Citizen.	Minneapolis
Williams, E. S	1864, 6, 10.	Acting Pastor.	Brainerd

Sterling	
Paynesville	
Brainerd	
Swansea, Renv. Co.	Elgin, Illinois
Austin	
Minneapolis, E. D.	LaCrosse Dist. Con.
Glenwood	Northern
Cannon Riv. Falls.	Winona
Austin	Owatonna
Alexandria	St. Croix Dist. Con.
Princeton	
Anoka	Northern
Judson	Owatonna
St. Cloud	Northern
Minneapolis.	Owatonna
Sauk Centre	Northern
Lake City	Winona
Afton	St. Croix Dist. Con.
Duluth	N. P. Association
Wasioja	Owatonna
Excelsior	Northern
Monticello	"
Rushford	Winona
Marshall	Northern
Waseca	Owatonna
Montevideo	
Clearwater	Northern
Minneapolis	"
Northfield.	Owatonna
Silver Lake	"
Winona	Winona
St. Paul	Northern
Brownsdale	
Granite Falls	Owatonna
Northfield	"
New Munich	Northern
Detroit	
Marine Mills	Northern
Glecnoe	
Plainview	Winona
Minneapolis	Owatonna
Brainerd	N. P. Association

Appendix I.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. That we recognize the mission and province of the Christian Church to become the advocate and standard bearer of every great moral and political reform, and that the Christian should vote as well as pray, and vote as they pray.

2. That a Temperance revival is greatly needed in all our churches and communities, and that we recommend that our Preachers, Laymen, Sunday School Superintendents and Teachers labor heartily for this end.

3. That the attention of the churches be most earnestly called to the subject of systematic giving, as being indispensable to the success of our church organizations.

4. That in order to promote the use of the word in the public worship of the Christian Church we request the American Bible Society to furnish a cheap edition of the Bible, with appropriate portions arranged for responsive service.

Appendix K.

REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

On the review of the year there is cause for hope and gratitude. Cheering additions have been made to many of our churches. In some blessed revivals have been enjoyed.

At Brainerd, Marshall, Princeton, St. Paul, and other points, houses of worship have been completed; while at Minneapolis, Muskoda and elsewhere, new sanctuaries are rising.

Of our eighty one churches seventeen are self-supporting. One of our Conferences, the Anoka, reports all its churches supplied with the ministry of the word. Three churches have recently been organized in the Red River country, from representatives of several denominations—Episcopal, Primitive and Wesleyan Methodist, Baptist, Plymouth Brethren, Presbyterian, and Congregational, who chose to unite their forces rather than distribute them into expensive competitions.

The gospel, through the new Churches of Christ, has done much to make the colonist from our own and other lands feel at home amid the trying conditions of frontier life.

Our Sunday Schools indicate increasing interest in the children and youth.

The benevolent offerings of the churches bear witness to the value of systematic giving. The thorough report of the chairman of the committee, points out the great progress yet to be made. Of the

forty-one churches reported to this committee, the offerings of this year show a gain of eighteen per cent. over the offerings of seventy-eight churches last year, although but sixteen of these forty-one have adopted the plan recommended. It is hoped that this system of giving will be generally put in operation.

The Woman's Cent Society, which has been organized in nine churches, reports $139 as the result of patient endeavor to start this effective auxiliary.

Nine of our churches have adopted the responsive reading of the Psalms, and report encouragingly as to its influence in incorporating the congregation in the service of the sanctuary.

Eight Congregational and Union Churches are making hopeful progress on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, while three new church buildings have been erected and paid for, on the Winona and St. Peter Railway.

We take pleasure in noting the fact reported to this Conference, that in the Worthington colony, where a flourishing church has been organized this year, and which has a population of one thousand families, no intoxicating liquors are sold—a fact proving that moral sentiment and local legislation are competent to greatly check and often wholly prohibit this direful traffic.

We gratefully recognize the encouraging success that has attended our College at Northfield during the year. It has been generously remembered by donors in the East and West. Its students have increased fifty per cent., numbering now one hundred and twenty-five. Its classes have evinced faithfulness in study, and a high moral tone, while the affection and esteem of the churches haue been increasingly enlisted. It is commended to our congregations for larger endowment and as a wisely selected institution for the training of our youth.

We are reminded also of our relations to the Theological Seminary of Chicago, from which already more than *one hundred men* have gone forth to preach Christ in this and foreign lands.

With gratitude the Conference recognizes its obligation to its retiring Superintendent, Rev. Richard Hall. Eighty-one churches wisely located, hard service amid pelting, windy storms, warm sympathy with the ministry of the State, and the struggling churches, fraternal regard to the sister churches—are a record the memory of which will abide with us, and gladden our brother.

The cordial greeting and co-operation of the Conference extended to the Rev. S. H. Cobb, who leaves a successful pastorate to enter upon the service of State Superintendent.

This meeting of our Conference will ever be memorable as securing inspiration from the gathering of the American Board of Foreign Missions, held the same week at Minneapolis, at which it was felt and seen that the home and foreign field are literally one in fellowship and importance.

One of the ministers of our Conference who rejoiced to meet with us in the years past, has since we last met gone to his reward.

With new thankfulness for the trust committed to us, we enter upon a new year. May the banner of the Cross be lifted higher by us than during the years past. May the spirit of prevailing prayer rest upon our churches, and may we come to the close of the year rejoicing many sheaves with us.

C. C. SALTER.

Appendix L.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT AMERICAN HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Since October 18, 1872, all the missionary fields in the State occupied by the A. H. M. S., except four, have been visited by the Superintendent, enabling him to endorse applications for aid with personal knowledge of the circumstances of the applicants. In accomplishing this, and in making such other visitation and exploration as has been made in prosecution of the work, he has traveled 11,137 miles, at a cost to the Society for traveling expenses of only $145.63. Thanks to the generosity, or, shall we say, the enlightened policy of our frontier railroads, that, by granting passes, either free or half fare, have made such an amount of travel possible at so moderate an expense. But these railroads have not been the losers by their liberal policy, since the introduction of missionaries, the organization of churches, and the building of houses of worship, have served to draw to the frontier a valuable class of settlers who otherwise might not have gone. The early establishment of gospel institutions being thus made possible, settlers venture out whose morality and piety are prime elements in establishing an orderly and prosperous community.

About $17,275.00 have been expended in Minnesota during the Conference year by the A. H. M. Soc., aiding fifty-five churches, and supporting wholly or in part forty-four missionaries.

Seventeen churches are self-supporting, viz: Anoka; Austin; Cottage Grove; Duluth; Excelsior; Faribault, First Congregational and Plymouth Churches; Lake City; Minneapolis, First Congregational and Plymouth Churches; Northfield; Plainview; Rochester; St. Paul; Wabashaw; Winona and Zumbrota.

There are seven vacant fields needing a supply, with no immediate prospect of obtaining one, viz: Claremont and Wasioja, Glyndon, Quincy, Sleepy Eye, Spring Valley, Sterling and Mazeppa.

Three new fields have been occupied, viz: Albert Lea, Granite Falls, and Marshall, and a beginning has been made by Bro. Alden at Lamberton and Sleepy Eye, and by Bro. Gates at Jamestown and Bismark, in Dakota Territory.

Eight new churches have been organized, five of which are Congre-

gational in name, and three Union churches, which will seek the aid of this society, viz: Albert Lea, Granite Falls, Hancock, Sleepy Eye, and Worthington; also Union churches at Hawley, Muskoda, and Park, to which also the Union church at Glyndon may be added, making ten, all of which are likely to apply for aid, or have done so.

Eight houses of worship have been built at the following places: Audubon, Brainerd, Detroit, Douglas, Hamilton, Princeton, Rose Creek, and Sleepy Eye. The church at Marshall owns, free of debt, a good building, the lower part of which they rent for a store, and occupy the upper as their place of worship. The Church at Hancock has a recognized claim upon the new district school house as their place for worship, because of aid the church has rendered in its erection. Sterling has repaired its house, Fergus Falls has commenced the erection of a $1500 house, and Worthington one to cost $3500; both to be done before winter.

Five churches, Douglas, Fergus Falls, Mankato, Montevideo, and Rushford have been blessed with some revival interest.

While three-fourths of our churches are weak, requiring, many of them, to be largely aided at first, yet out of weakness they are gradually becoming strong; first, in faith, their very feebleness in numbers and in means teaching them wholesome lessons of dependence upon the providence and Spirit of God to build them up. In their poverty and by means of it, they get the blessing of the poor, their necessities and straits driving all the praying, believing ones to prayer, and giving them precious evidence that an Almighty Saviour does indeed walk among the golden candlesticks now as of old.

The summary of facts given is evidence that the home missionary work has made most encouraging progress in the State during the year. Indeed, for two years past the progress has been unusual, rapid, cheering.

Since our last meeting my resignation of the Superintendency, held now for seventeen years and four months, has been tendered and accepted, and my successor, Rev. L. H. Cobb appointed.

In June, 1856, I accepted the appointment of Home Missionary Agent for the State, and entered at once upon the work, which I have seen no plain providential way out of till now.

At the time I entered upon the Superintendency, in June, 1856, there were but six Congregational churches in the State, viz: those at St. Anthony, Anoka, Sauk Rapids, Excelsior, Winona, and the Welsh Congregational church at Butternut Valley, with a total membership of less than one hundred and fifty. At the close of the year there were fifteen churches. Now we have eighty-one churches, with a total membership of three thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

With some labor I could have made out a near approximation to the number of miles I have traveled and the number of sermons I have preached, &c., &c. But I have not kept an accurate record for the whole time. I know and realize that an accurate record *has been* kept

on high, not only of such items, but of the whole manner and spirit of my work, of the way in which I have borne myself and managed the work in its relations to other denominations, and especially to the Presbyterians, for whom I acted in the capacity of Superintendent from 1856 to 1861, but with whom since I have in not a few instances come unavoidably into sharp competition, but never to the loss of my respect and affection for the great body of them, as true and earnest followers of our common Lord.

The *whole and accurate* record of these years I expect to meet at the great day. I know it is imperfect. The service has been far less faithful, earnest, wise and efficient, towards a true building up of Christ's spiritual reign among our churches and in our State, than I wish it was. Yet, sprinkled as I hope this very imperfect service may be with the blood of Christ, I also hope that in this way it may be accepted of God.

As soon as the health of Bro. Cobb's family will permit him to remove to the State, I shall be relieved of the *ad interim* responsibilities that are now upon me.

I gladly take this opportunity to thank the ministerial brethren and the churches throughout the State, for the sympathy and support they have always given me in my work, and especially for the frequency and earnestness with which, as I have bowed with you at your family altars, you have remembered me and my work at the throne of grace. For whatever success I have enjoyed I am greatly indebted to this sympathy and these prayers. Nor have my own prayers been wanting for you and your churches; nor shall they cease to be offered when my present official relation to you terminates. Let me have yours that God will guide and strengthen me for some further service in his kingdom.

And I would bespeak for my beloved brother Cobb the same sympathy, and prayer and support you have so long given me, knowing well that he will need only this and the blessing of God to do here a far greater and better work than I have been able to do in the Home Missionary Superintendency for Minnesota.

RICHARD HALL.

Appendix M.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REPORTS OF SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

WHEREAS, Rev. Richard Hall, one of the two pioneers who more than a score of years ago planted our simple polity on Minnesota soil, has for seventeen years led the van of our missionary labor in the the State; and whereas, under the new order of things, his connection with our work, as Superintendent of Missions, has been severed;

Resolved, That the churches of this Conference do most cordially acknowledge the eminent services Bro. Hall has rendered the cause of Christ in this State; that seeing the fruit of his labor in the planting of four score churches, we unreservedly commend the energy, the wisdom, the discretion, and yet the broad Christian charity with which he has wrought to give our Congregational polity a wide and sure foundation in this new part of our land.

Resolved, That, judging from his past record, where he labored as it were single-handed in the field, without official advisers on the ground, we have good reason to believe that Bro. Hall, had he remained as Superintendent of Missions, would, under the new order of things. with the rich experience of seventeen years of pioneer service, and with an organized band of helpers and counsellors by his side, have wrought with ever increasing power and success, bringing forth yet more abundant fruit to the glory of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

Resolved, That we express the decided conviction that, in all changes referring to the welfare of our churches, the utmost care shall be taken first to ascertain the will of the churches.

Resolved, That we will cordially welcome Rev. L. H. Cobb, the new incumbent of the Superintendency, and give him our hearty sympathy and co-operation in the arduous duties to which he is called.

CONSTITUTION OF CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the "GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA."

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesosa and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession and By-Laws; each church being represented by its Pastor, or Stated Supply, and one Delegate; and also of Missionaries in the employ of the American Home Missionary Society, engaged in active duty in this State, but not in charge of churches which are members of this Conference.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers, members of any church in this Conference other than the Pastor or Stated Supply, shall be honorary members *ex officio* of the Conference; and other ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body may be invited to sit as honorary members during the session then in progress, and honorary members shall have all the privileges of the Conference, except the right of voting.

ART. 4. All officers of Conference shall be elected by ballot and public nomination, except when otherwise ordered by special vote.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the Churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

ART. 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the Second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual meeting of the Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at a previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each

consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members, to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Conference may be altered at any annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS OF CONFERENCE.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets, shall call the members to order. After prayer, a temporary Scribe shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates and delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator and Scribe (one or more) shall be elected.

2. In making the enrollment slips of paper shall be furnished to every member, who shall write upon it his name and the church he represents, indicating whether he is a minister or delegate, and from these slips the Scribe shall make out the roll.

3. Committtes shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on resolutions, printing and finance.

4. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

5. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

6. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent during the sitting of the Conference,

7. Every church applying for admission to this Conference shall present, for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

8. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution shall be elected.

9. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing, and every motion intended to be incorporated in full in the minutes shall be presented in writing before it is acted on by the Conference.

10. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

11. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees, shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Carleton College, and report at the next meeting.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ART. II. The General Congregational Conference, together with all members of the American Home Missionary Society residing within the State, shall be the Society.

ART. III. The object of this Society shall be to co-operate with the American Home Missionary Society in diffusing the gospel; by aiding weak congregations within the State in the support of the ministry; by organizing churches wherever they are needed; by supplying communities destitute of preaching, and by doing the work of Christianization within other States and the Territories.

ART. IV. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor, one or more Superintendents, an Executive Committee of three in each Local Conference, and a Board of Directors.

ART. V. Those officers whose term of office and manner of election are not otherwise provided for, shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve for three years.

ART. VI. The Executive Committees shall be chosen annually by the Society, upon the nomination of the Local Conferences, and on being accepted by the American Home Missionary Society as its agency for the purpose, shall, in council and co-operation with the Superintendent, designate and recommend fields, missionaries and appropriations, both from the American Home Missionary Society and the American Congregational Union; shall care for the general missionary work within their respective limits; shall hold a meeting for conference at each gathering of the Local Conference; shall seek to secure young men for the ministry; shall use diligence to increase the contributions of the churches, and to hasten the day of self-support among the aided churches; and shall seek to secure such a system of harmonious co-operation with other denominations as shall prevent sectarian jealousy and needless expenditure. Each of the Executive Committee shall also make a written report to the Society at its annual meeting, of their action, specifying the condition of every aided church

within their limits, and the general wants of their field. The Board shall also fill all vacancies that may occur, either in their own body or in the several executive committees.

ART. VII. The Board of Directors shall consist of the chairmen of the several executive committees and two members at large, to be chosen annually by the Society. They shall choose one of their number as Chairman and another as Secretary, who shall also be the Recording Secretary of the Society; shall hold a session in connection with every meeting of the General Conference, and also upon the call of their Chairman, whenever any exigency may require; shall nominate, in case of vacancy, the Superintendents to the parent Society, which is to appoint and pay them; shall consider the apportionment of men and money, and methods of increasing the supply of both; shall make an annual report to the Society, and in their general oversight shall make to the parent Society such suggestions as they may deem wise.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall receive all money coming into the Society, and shall remit the same every month to the parent Society. He shall also make an annual report to the Society, not only of the money so transmitted, but of that which is acknowledged by the parent Society as coming directly to its treasury from this State.

ART. IX. The Superintendents, in council and co-operation with the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees, and under the instruction of the parent Society, shall give themselves to the work of securing ministers for missionary churches, transmitting and endorsing applications for aid, encouraging the beneficiary churches on to self support, organizing churches, preaching the Word in destitute communities and among the aided churches, and increasing the contributions to the Society.

ART. X. The usual quarterly and annual reports of the missionaries to the parent Society shall be made in duplicate, and one copy sent to the Superintendent of their respective districts, for the information of the officers of the State Society.

ART. XI. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of all the members present; provided the amendment shall have been proposed at the preceding annual meeting, or is recommended by the Board of Directors.

ERRATA.—Page 6, Saturday morning session, instead of "Prof. R. F. Worthington" read "Prof. R. F. Humiston."

Page 14, Appendix A, Committee to visit Carleton College, instead of "E. M. Williams" read "E. W. Merrill."

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and other articles suitable to fit up for sale at **FAIRS**, and to those purchasing in quantity a liberal discount will be made. Dresses cut from measure by

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For Schedule of Carleton College, see last two pages.

For plan of Systematic Beneficence, see pages 19 and 20.

CARLETON COLLEGE

CARLETON COLLEGE was founded in the conviction that an institution of learning distinctly Christian in character, and aiming at the standard of scholarship maintained by the older Colleges of New England is needed in Minnesota and will be sustained. In addition to the College proper, a Preparatory Department, under the same instructors, has been organized. An English course of tudy extending over four years has been arranged for those not choosing the Classical course. To enter the English Department students must be able to commence English Grammar and Robinson's Higher Arithmetic.

All departments are open to students of either sex. Ladies reside with the lady jachers in a separate building, but both sexes meet in all general exercises, are einstructed in the same classes, and may take the same degrees. The privileges of the College are offered to all alike, irrespective of race, nationality or denominational preferences. It is the aim of the Faculty to provide an education *liberal* and *thorough* that shall embrace moral culture as well as mental discipline, and secure a symmetrical Christian character.

INSTRUCTORS.

Rev. JAMES W. STRONG, D. D.,
President and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy.

HORACE GOODHUE, Jr., A. M.,
Professor of the Greek Language and Literature, and Principal of the Preparatory Department.

WM. W. PAYNE., A. M.,
Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

Mrs. MARY J. BOIES,
Preceptress and Teacher of Gymnastics.

Miss. SARAH E. DOW, A. M.,
Teacher of Latin Language and Literature.

Miss SARAH J. CHRISTIE,
Teacher of German and Assistant in English Department.

Mrs. J. D LEE,
Teacher of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

Mrs. MARY J. BOIES,
Matron.

EXPENSES.

Board in College Building, per week....	$2 75	Use of Piano per term, one hour per day	$2 00
Tuition Higher English and Classics, per term of 13 weeks.....	8 00	Room Rent, per term.....	3 00
" Common English, per term of 13 weeks	6 00	Incidentals, per term...	1 00
" Instrumental and Vocal Music, per lesson each...	50	Heating, in proportion to cost.	

CALENDAR FOR 1873-4.

Wednesday, Sept. 10th, Fall Term of 15 weeks begins.
Vacation of two weeks.
Wednesday, Jan. 7th, Winter term of 12 weeks begins.
Vacation of one week
Wednesday, April 8th, Spring term of 12 weeks begins.
Anniversary Exercises, June 29th and 30th.
Vacation of two weeks.
Wednesday, Sept. 9th, Fall term begins.
Examinations to enter College, June 27th and Sept. 8th.

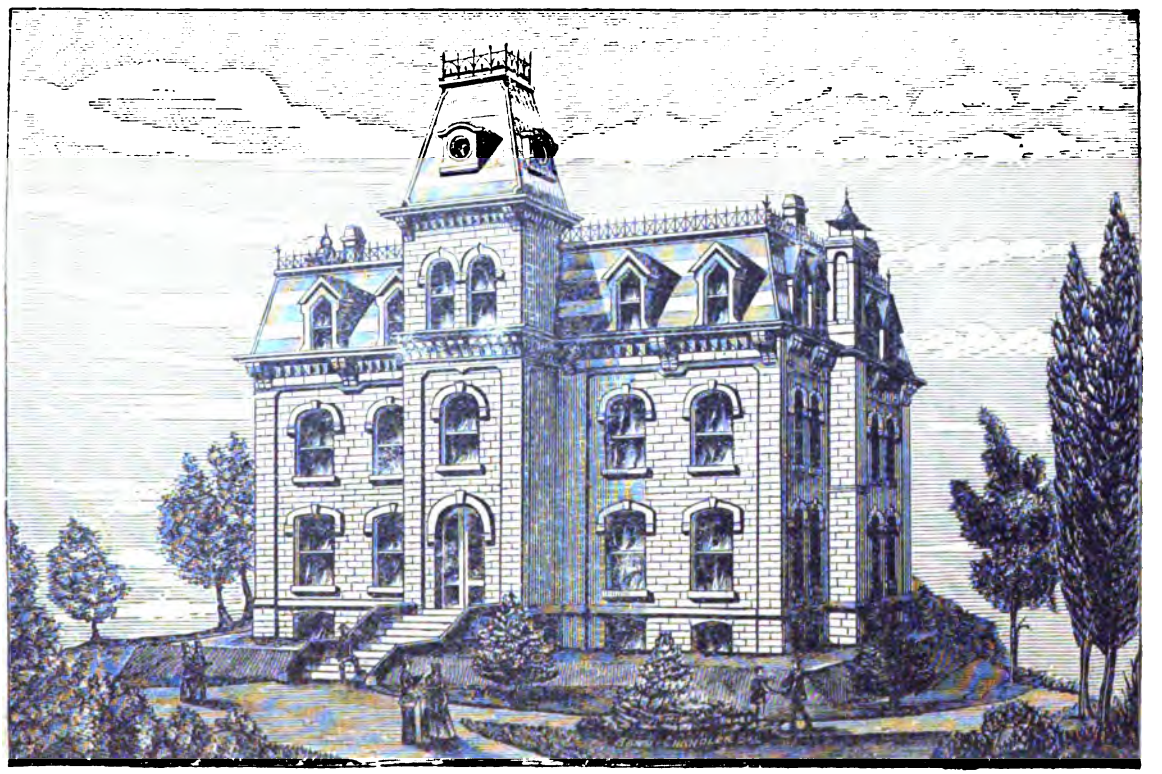
The Rooms in the Ladies Hall are furnished with Stoves, Chairs, Tables, Washstand Bureaus, Mattresses, and Bedsteads, and those of Willis Hall are supplied with the same, excepting Mattresses. *All other furniture must be procured by the occupant.*

A building containing unfurnished rooms for twelve young men, is devoted to hose wishing to board themselves. Board can be obtained in the Institution at he price given above, or in private families at reasonable rates.

Applications for rooms or board in the Ladies' Hall may be made to the Matron—or rooms in Willis Hall, to Prof. Goodhue.

General correspondence may be directed to

JAS. W. STRONG, President,
Northfield, Minnesota.



Willis Hall, Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.

285.8776
G326
1874

MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF

MINNESOTA,

CONVENED IN WINONA, OCTOBER 8,

1874.

MINNEAPOLIS:
JOHNSON & SMITH, STEAM PRINTERS.
1873.

OFFICERS.

REV. HENRY A. STIMSON, *Moderator.*

REV. A. J. PIKE, *Scribe.*

REV. E. G. WICKS, *Assistant Scribe.*

REV HORACE BUMSTEAD, *Treasurer and Rec. Sec'y.*

REV. N. C. CHAPIN, *Corresponding Secretary.*

REV. R. HALL, *Statistical Secretary.*

PROF. J. L. NOYES, *Auditor.*

MINUTES

OF THE

General Congregational Conference

OF MINNESOTA.

The Eighteenth Annual Session of the General Congregational Conference of Minnesota, was convened at Winona, Thursday evening, October 8, 1874. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. C. M. Terry of St. Paul, from 1 Cor. 3: 9-17.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Conference was called to order at 9 A. M. by Rev. H. M. Tenney. Prayer was offered by Rev. E. J. Hart. The committee on nominations made a report, and the following officers were elected:

Moderator—Rev. H. A. STIMSON.
Scribe—Rev. A. J. PIKE.
Assistant Scribe—Rev. E. G. WICKS.
Treasurer—Rev. HORACE BUMSTEAD.
Auditor—Prof. J. L. NOYES.

The following is the completed roll of the members of the Conference:

MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS.	DELEGATES.
Albert Lea	S. F. Drew	
Alexandria	W. W. Norton	
Austin		Rush B. Wheeler.
Chain Lake Center	J. C. Strong	
Cottage Grove	E. J. Hart	
Faribault		Prof. J. L. Noyes.
Granite Falls	J. D. Todd	
Guilford	A. Morse	
Hamilton	R. S. Armstrong	Dea. T. P. Mead.

Lac qui Parle	O. A. Starr	
Lake City	J. W. Ray.	
Little Falls	W. A. Cutler	
Mankato	L. W. Chaney	Dea. Wm. Taylor.
Mazeppa	J. B. Ladd	
Medford	S. W. Powell	David Sanborn.
Minneapolis—Plymouth	H. A. Stimson.	R. J. Baldwin.
—Second	Horace Bumstead	
—Pilgrim	C. A. Hampton	
Montevideo	O. A. Starr	
Northfield	J. A. Towle	Hiram Scriver.
Owatonna	O. C. Dickerson	
Plainview	Henry Willard	J. Baldwin.
Rochester		Rev. E. Newton.
Rose Creek	A. Morse	
Rushford	W. W. Snell	G. H. Hitchcock.
Sauk Center	A. J. Pike	
Spring Valley	F. L. Fuller	
St. Charles	Gilbert Rindell	Chas. Gerrish.
St. Paul	C. M. Terry	
Wabasha	E. G. Wicks.	S. S. Kepler.
Waseca		Mrs. M. A. Whipple.
Winona	H. M. Tenney	Rev. D. Burt.
Zumbrota	S. H. Barteau	

Missionary at Large—E. H. Alden.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Rev. A. Willey, (*ex officio*).	Rev. H. M. Storrs, D. D.
Rev. L. Loring.	Rev. T. A. Gardner,
Rev. Wm. McKinley,	Rev. R. McQuesten.

For the Committees chosen at this Conference, see Appendix A.

Voted, To raise a tax of three cents per member on the membership of the Churches of the State, to meet the expenses of the ensuing year.

The report of the Treasurer, Rev. H. Bumstead, was presented and accepted. [Appendix B.]

Rev. W. W. Snell was added to the Business Committee for this session.

The Conference spent one hour in devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. L. W. Chaney.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Conference was called to order by the Moderator, at 4 P. M. The report of the Committee of Conference for visiting Carleton College, was read by Rev. D. Burt, and was accepted. [Appendix C.]

President Strong being absent from the State, a report on the condition of Carleton College was read by Rev. J. A. Towle of Northfield, and additional remarks were made by H. Scriver. [Appendix D.]

A report of the Committee of Conference appointed last year to raise funds for the endowment of a Professorship of Physical Science in Carleton College, was made by Rev. H. M. Tenney, which elicited considerable discussion, and it was

Voted, That the Committee be continued another year, with instructions to vary their plans of labor as they may think best.

The following resolution, presented by Rev. J. A. Towle, was adopted:

Resolved, That this Conference, feeling the need that the Churches of this State combine their prayers with their pecuniary gifts to Carleton College, recommend that the annual collection for the College, in conformity to the plan of systematic beneficence, be taken throughout the State on the Sabbath following the day of prayer for Colleges.

The report of the Treasurer of the Widows and Orphans' Aid Society, was read by Rev. J. A. Towle, and was accepted. [Appendix E.]

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

Conference convened at half past seven, and was opened by an anthem by the choir.

The report of the Committee on Systematic Beneficence was read by Rev. H. A. Stimson, discussed at some length, and adopted. [Appendix F.]

The question "How can we best labor for the promotion of Revivals of Religion?" being the topic for the hour, the discussion was opened by Rev. J. W. Ray, who was followed by other members of the Conference. At the close of the discussion, Revs. J. W. Ray and L. W. Chaney were appointed a committee to report in regard to revival work.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Conference was opened with prayer by Rev. O. C. Dickerson. The Statistical Secretary being absent, his report was read by Rev. J. A. Towle, and was accepted. [Appendix G.]

Rev. H. M. Tenney read a communication from Dr. Ray Palmer, and Rev. J. A. Towle was appointed Corresponding Secretary of the American Congregational Union.

The following resolution presented by Rev. A. Willey, was adopted:

Resolved, That the use of a sanctified press for the success of Christ's Kingdom, is not merely optional, but a positive duty, like the pulpit, the college, and the Sabbath School.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference was called to order by the Moderator. The first half hour was devoted to reports from the recent National Council at New Haven, Conn., remarks being made by Rev. H. Willard and Dr. Storrs.

The Committee on method of promoting revivals, reported resolutions which were deferred till evening. The Committee on place and preacher for the next meeting, reported Minneapolis Plymouth Church as the place, and Rev. J. W. Ray as preacher, Rev. A. J. Pike, Substitute. Adopted.

Rev. A. Willey read a paper on the subject of temperance, and after discussion the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That we as ministers and churches, are in most hearty sympathy with the temperance cause, and pledge ourselves to do all that we can for its promotion.

A letter to the conference on the subject of temperance from Rev. W. W. Satterlee, was read by the Scribe.

The following resolution reported by the Business Committee was adopted:

Resolved, That more direct and efficient efforts should be made to reach and evangelize our foreign population.

By a vote of the Conference, Rev. J. A. Towle was invited to prepare a paper to be read at the next Conference, upon the Lutheran Church—its Theology, and relation to our Christian Work among our Scandinavian population.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

Conference was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer was offered by Rev. F. L. Fuller. The topic for the hour was, The importance of, and the means of developing, the activities of the church. The discussion was opened by Rev. S. H. Barteau, who was followed by other members till the hour of closing. The resolutions offered by the Committee on revivals were then adopted. [Appendix H.]

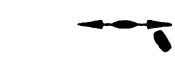
The following resolution was passed.

Resolved, That we hereby express our sincere gratitude to the families that have so kindly entertained us during the session of Conference, and also to the officers of the Winona & St. Peter Railway for their liberal reduction of fare.

It was then voted that the Conference adjourn at the close of the Sabbath evening service.

HENRY A. STIMSON, Moderator.
A. J. PIKE, } Scribes.
E. G. WICKS, }
HORACE BUMSTEAD, R. Sec.

SUNDAY SERVICES.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

9:30 A. M. Missionary experienee meeting.
10:30 A. M. Sermon by Rev. H. M. Storrs, D. D.
2:00 P. M. Sunday School.
3:30 P. M. Communion Service, conducted by Rev. S. H. Barteau and Rev. L. W. Chaney.
7:30 P. M. Home Missionary Meeting. Addresses by Rev. H. M. Storrs, D. D., Rev. E. H. Alden, and Rev. W. A. Cutler.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

10:30 A. M. Sermon by Rev. H. Bumstead.
7:30 P. M. Sermon by Rev. L. Loring.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

10:30 A. M. Sermon by Rev. J. A. Towle.
7:30 P. M. Sermon by Rev. O. C. Dickerson.

METHODIST CHURCH.

7:30 P. M. Sermon by Rev. S. H. Barteau.

MINUTES

OF THE

Minnesota Home Missionary Society.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Society was called to order Oct. 9, 1874, at 11:15 A. M.

Rev. L. W. Chaney, in the absence of the President, was chosen temporary Chairman, and Rev. J. A. Towle, Scribe.

The report of the Treasurer was presented by Bro. Harlan W. Page, Auditor, and was adopted. [Appendix I.]

The report of Supt. L. H. Cobb was presented in his absence by Rev. H. M. Tenney and accepted. [Appendix J.]

Reports from the Executive Committees of the local Conferences were then presented and accepted, as follows:

Report from Winona Conference, Rev. H. M. Tenney.

Report from Owatonna Conference, Rev. L. W. Chaney, Rev. J. A. Towle, Rev. A. Morse.

Voted to take a recess until 2 P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society came to order, and Rev. D. Burt offered prayer.

Executive Committees for the local Conferences were elected as follows:

Anoka Conference—Rev. H. A. Stimson, Rev. O. M. Smith, Rev. A. J. Pike.

Owatonna Conference—Rev. L. W. Chaney, Rev. A. Morse, Rev. J. A. Towle.

Winona Conference—Rev. J. W. Ray, Rev. H. M. Tenney, Rev. S. H. Barteau.

Western Conference—Rev. O. A. Starr, Rev. J. D. Todd.

The nomination of Directors at large was referred to a nominating committee, consisting of Rev. H. Willard, Bro. J. L. Noyes, Rev. H. M. Tenney who reported Rev. N. C. Chapin and Rev. H. M. Tenney who were elected. Rev. E. J. Hart was elected Honorary member of the Board of Directors.

The Woman's Cent Society reported through Rev. E. J. Hart, that during the year ten churches had contributed $135,00.

Rev. H. M. Tenney offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That this Conference heartily endorses the Woman's Cent Society and urges the officers of the Society to continue their efforts to enlist all the churches of the Conference in the work.

Adjourned to Saturday, 10:30 A. M.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Society met according to adjournment. Remarks were made by various members upon resolutions which failed to pass, after which the Society adjourned *sine die*.

JAMES A. TOWLE, Scribe.

APPENDICES.

Appendix A.

COMMITTEES.

On Place and Preacher—Revs. S. F. Drew, E. J. Hart, and H. Scriver, Esq.

On Arrangements and Devotional Exercises—Revs. H. A. Stimson, Geo. M. Landon, and Geo. H. Rust, Esq.

On Business for next Annual Meeting—Revs. H. Bumstead, C. M. Terry, A. J. Pike.

On Revivals—Revs. J. W. Ray; L. W. Chaney, S. W. Powell.

To Visit Carleton College—Revs. C. M. Terry, J. A. Towle, W. W. Snell O. C. Dickerson, Mason Crittenden, Esq.

Trustees of Widows' and Orphans' Fund—Rev. S. H. Barteau, N. C. Chapin, J. A. Towle, Prof. J. L. Noyes, H. Scriver, Esq.

On Finance and Printing—Revs. H. Bumstead, C. M. Terry, and R. J. Baldwin, Esq.

On Reception of Churches—Revs. L. W. Chaney, J. D. Todd and E. Newton.

Systematic Beneficence—Revs. H. A. Stimson, H. M. Tenney, and Harlan W. Page, Esq.

On Resolutions—Revs. D. Burt, J. W. Ray, and E. J. Hart.

On Endowment of Chair of Physical Science in Carleton College—Revs. H. M. Tenney, C. M. Terry and D. R. Noyes and D. C. Bell, Esqs.

Appendix B.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Minnesota Congregational Conference in account with Horace Bumstead, Treasurer.

		Dr.	
1873.			
Dec. 10.	To printing 2000 copies minutes		$120 00
" 10.	" " 500 Plans of Beneficence		2 00
" 10.	" express and postage on minutes		7 38
" 22.	" blanks and postage for Statistical Secretary		3 00
" 22.	" money order and postage for above		08
1874.			
Jan. 8.	" copying minutes		3 00
March 3.	" express on minutes		25
April 15.	" printing postal cards for Benef. Committee		2 00
Sept. 17.	" " circulars for same Committee		2 75
Oct. 7.	" balance		96 49
	Total		$236 95

		Contra Cr.		
1873.				
Oct. 1.	By balance	$189 64		
Dec. 10.	" advertising in minutes	35 00		
1874.				
Oct. 7,	" interest	12 31		
				$236 95
Oct. 7.	Balance			$96 49

HORACE BUMSTEAD, Treasurer.

Minneapolis, Oct. 7, 1874.

Audited and found correct,

Oct. 9, 1874. J. L. NOYES, Auditor.

Appendix C.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT CARLETON COLLEGE.

Some member of your Committee has been present at each examination during the last College year. Careful attention has been given to the work undertaken and accomplished in the several departments of instruction. It is evidently the aim of the teachers to be practical, thorough and earnest. There has been no dullness, no routine in any recitation room. We were especially pleased with the enthusiasm of the principal teacher in mathematics, and his spirit is largely shared by the ladies teaching this branch in the lower classes. The Teacher of Greek has shown marked ability in the etymology of that language; Homeric words have been thoroughly analyzed, and the class scanned the Iliad with facility. The teacher of Latin has impressed the peculiar idioms of that language upon her pupils, and taught them to find themes and trace out grammatical changes. The instruction in other branches of study has been worthy of some special commendations that need not be mentioned. The College, considered in a literary aspect, is a germ, sound and vital, and destined to grow after the manner of the best institutions of a similar character at the east. As the Committee of Visitation appointed by the Trusteess will speak of the special needs of the college, we will not report on this subject, further than to say that the increase in the number of students, and other indications of a healthy growth, will justify the Conference in prompt and thorough measures to secure the proposed endowment of another professorship, and to enlarge the apparatus and the library of the institution as fast as possible.

It will be of interest to the Conference to learn that onr impressions as to the religious culture of the school are very favorable. This culture is free from any *ism*—it is Christian in the broad and vital sense of that word, and is made prominent by the example of a consecrated corps of teachers. Some seventeen of the pupils are looking forward to prominent Christian work for the church of Christ, and two-thirds of all the students profess a Christian experience. The number of students has largely increased since the last visit of your Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

N. C. CHAPIN.
D. BURT.
R. F. HUMISTON.

Appendix D.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF CARLETON COLLEGE.

During the past year the President has been engaged in the department of instruction, evidently with the happiest results. An unusual religious prosperity has attended all the labors connected with the College, forty having given evidence of a consecration to the Christian life, and two thirds of the total number enrolled during the year, professing to be Christians. The attendance has exceeded that of the previous year twenty per cent.

Financial Statement for the Year Ending July 1st, 1874.

RECEIPTS.

Tuition and Room Rent,	$3,437.09
Interest accrued,	6,217.28
Donations from various sources,	1,004 78
Boarding Department,	613.56
Total,	$11,272.71

EXPENDITURES.

Repairs account,	$1,014.57
Current Expenses—Salaries,	7,473.68
" " Incidentals, Insurance, &c.,	2,090.70
Total,	$10,578.95

Comparatively few donations have been received, the effort which would otherwise have been made having been expended in other directions. The recommendation of the State Conference at its last meeting, seconded by an earnest appeal to the churches of the State by the special Committee looking to the endowment of a chair of Physical Science, has met with but a limited response.

On the whole, the past has been a very prosperous year, with renewed occasion for gratitude to God for his continued blessing upon this educational enterprise; and the churches are urged to redouble their prayerful interest, and endeavor, that this prosperity may be abiding.

Appendix E.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' AID SOCIETY.

The Widows' and Orphans' Aid Society in account with J. A. Towle Treasurer.

CASH ACCOUNT.

1873.	Dr.	1873.	Cr.
Sept. 25. To balance on hand	$ 45	Nov. 15. By loan to A. L. Presen 12 per cent.	$100 00
" 27. To Collection at St. Paul	36 00	1874.	
Oct. 18. To Interest W. B. Dada note	12 00	Jan. 8. By loan to Bank of Austin 10 per cent..	167 00
Nov. 15. To Bank of Northfield paid bal. of note $55, interest $10,37	65 37	" 9. By loan to Bank of Northfield 6 per cent.	16 00
" 15, To Disc. on loan A. L. Presen	3 00	Oct. 8. By cash on hand	38 74
1874.			
Jan. 8. To Bank of Austin paid note $150, interest 13 months, $17,	167 00		
March 5, To Int. G. F. Batchelder note	6 00		
July 20. To E. Brown paid note $25, int. $6,92	31 92		
	$321 74		$321 74

Winona, Oct. 9th, 1894.
Audited and found correct.
J. L. NOYES, Auditor.

Assets Widows and Orphans' Aid Society, Oct. 8, 1874.

Advance Stock, one share	
Note of W. B. Dada, $100, interest Oct. 14, 1 year 12 per cent	$112 00
" " G. F. Batchelder, $50, Oct. 24, 8 months 10 per cent	53 33
" " A. L. Presen, $100, int. Oct 15, 11 months 12 per cent	111 00
" " Bank of Austin, $167, int. Oct 8, 9 months 10 per cent	179 53
" " Bank of Northfield, $16, int. Oct. 9, 9 months 6 per cent.	16 72
Cash Balance	38 74
Total	$511 32

Winona, Oct. 9th, 1874.
Audited and found correct.
J. L. NOYES, Auditor.

Appendix F.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

Your Committee begs leave to report as follows:

We caused to be printed and sent to the churches a circular embracing substantially the same inquiries as those which furnished the basis of our report last year. We regret that only twenty-nine churches have replied, and from their replies we gather the following facts: Eight churches of those reporting have adopted the Conference plan in full and two in part; eleven make annual subscriptions to some of the societies, and eight have no method in giving. The aggregate of the benevolent contributions of these churches is $7,327. Seventeen pastors report that they have presented the matter of systematic giving to their churches during the year. Comparing these figures with those of last year, we regret to report that no new churches have adopted the plan recommended by the Conference, and one of those which had adopted it has abandoned it. It is a suggestive fact that this church, which reported annual contributions of $115, last year, when the plan was in force, this year reports nothing. The amount given by the twenty-nine churches embraced in our report is ten and a half per cent. larger than the contributions of the same churches during the previous year, and equal to the aggregate contributions of the entire Conference of seventy-eight churches two years ago.

In every case, except the one above referred to, the plan of the Conference seems to be accomplishing all that was hoped for from it. One pastor writes: "I am confident that our systematic beneficence is a potent spiritual feeder to our church"—a testimony which your Committee especially commends to the attention of the Conference as it bears upon a vital point in the life of the churches, and confirms the testimony which your Committee presented upon the same truth, last year. We would further add that while some of the churches using the plan of the Conference report a large increase in their contributions even over those of last year; others are enabled, we believe, mainly because of their use of the plan, to report, in the face of strong adverse influences, as building a new house of worship, or special financial embarrassment, benevolent contributions but slightly diminished.

Your Committee rejoices to be able to report a great improvement in the matter of provision for current expenses. In many cases the financial

condition of the churches is unsatisfactory, but as a whole the reports indicate marked improvement. Every church in the Conference, with, possibly, two exceptions, has its seats free, and provides for its current expenses by some form of subscription. A number have adopted the plan of weekly pledges paid through envelopes, and report favorably upon it. One of the largest churches secured a surplus by this method, and another church finds in it a special excellence in that it enables children and all the members of the family to bear a share in providing for the expenses of the church as well as having a part in its beneficence.

We would call attention again to the importance of emphasising the distinction that exists in character between money contributed for beneficence and that raised for church expenses. The one is of the nature of a gift, hoping for nothing again; the other is a *quid pro quo*, having largely the character of a business engagement and involving the obligations of a debt. If anyone has a doubt as to the reality of this distinction, he has only to consider the difference of feeling evoked in many churches by appeals for money for the missionary boards and money for the beautifying of their own church. It is an easy religion that calls cushioning one's own pew beneficence. Your Committee feels sure that the Conference will see in these facts rich testimony to the value of the attention which the Conference has bestowed upon these subjects of beneficence and finance in the past. They are proved to have a vital bearing upon both the spiritual and temporal prosperity of the church.

HENRY A. STIMSON, Chairman.

OUR PLAN OF SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE.

To the Members and Congregations of the Congregational Churches:

At the annual meeting of the General Conference of Minnesota, held at Lake City, Oct. 10th, 1872, the following plan was adopted and recommended to the churches for their benevolent contributions for the coming year.

The plan is based upon two general principles, viz:

1st. Christian giving is an act of worship: honoring the Lord with our substance.

2d. All Christian giving should be systematic, thoughtful, and intelligent.

These principles are believed to be essential to all acceptable offering of our gifts to God: and it is because we feel that they have not been sufficiently recognized in our former methods, that the present plan is presented. This plan proposes a collection *every Sabbath morning;* the amount contributed ordinarily to be divided *pro rata* among the following causes, on the basis of their needs for the ensuing year:

FOR GENERAL CHRISTIAN WORK, IN WHICH ALL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES UNITE:

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, including misssions to nominally Christian countries, ($100,000)..	$600,000
Home Missionary Society	500,000
American Missionery Association	500,000
Congregational Union (Church Erection)	250,000
Ministerial Education	100,000
Congregational Publishing Society	50,000
	$2,000,000

On certain Sabbaths, however, the contributions will not be so appropriated, but will be devoted to the following

LOCAL OBJECTS:

To the Poor—The offering at Communion in.....

To the Sabbath School—The offering of.....

To Carleton College—.....

To the Chicago Theological Seminary—

[*The above spaces to be filled in with such dates as the individual Churches may determine for these special offerings; and such other local objects to be added as the Churches may desire.*]

After deducting the twelve Sabbaths set apart for local objects as above, there will remain forty Sabbaths on which offerings will be made for the general work of the Church, and apportioned as above stated; it being always remembered (and special attention is called to this feature) that any contribution may be appropriated to *any* special object by attaching to it a slip of paper indicating the wish of the giver; and it is hoped that the utmost freedom will be exercised in this respect. No personal solicitation is to be used; and every one is free to give *as much or as little as he feels able;* only the Lord and the giver will know how much it is.

The following table will illustrate the working of the plan. By examining it any one can see how to adjust his weekly gifts, in order to make, in the aggregate, any given annual sum: and also how that annual sum will be apportioned, if not specially designated.

Weekly Contributions for 40 Sabbaths.	Annual Aggregate.	Foreign Missions.	Home Missions.	Amer. Miss. Association.	Congr'ga'nal Union.	Ministerial Education.	Publishing Society.
PROPORTIONS.		**60/200**	**50/200**	**50/200**	**20/200**	**10/200**	**5/200**
$ 0 10	$ 4 00	$ 1 20	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 0 40	$ 0 20	$ 0 10
20	8 00	2 40	2 00	2 00	1 00	40	20
25	10 00	3 00	2 50	2 50	1 25	50	25
50	20 00	6 00	5 00	5 00	2 50	1 00	50
1 00	40 00	12 00	10 00	10 00	5 00	2 00	1 00
1 50	60 00	18 00	15 00	15 00	7 50	3 00	1 50
2 00	80 00	24 00	20 00	20 00	10 00	4 00	2 00
2 50	100 00	30 00	25 00	25 00	12 50	5 00	2 50
5 00	200 00	60 00	50 00	50 00	25 00	10 00	5 00
10 00	400 00	120 00	100 00	100 00	50 00	20 00	10 00

The plan finds its method in the apostolic injunction, that upon the first day of the week, every one lay by him in store as God hath prospered him. Its success will depend wholly upon the spirit and thoroughness with which it is carried out. In the belief that the Churches will enter upon it with spirit and support it with regularity, and that the results will surprise all, it is recommended.

The Deacons are the proper committee to receive the collections and apportion them among the different objects.

By recommendation of the Conference.

H. A. STIMSON,
EDWARD BROWN,
THEODORE FURBER. } *Committee of Conference.*

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 1, 1872.

Churches desiring copies of this plan for distribution among their members, can be supplied at the small price of fifty cents per hundred, and have their local objects printed in without extra charge, by addressing REV. H. A. STIMSON, *Minneapolis, Minn*

Appendix H.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

Deeply impressed as we are with the importance of a general revival of religion in our churches, feeling assured that God is ready and waiting to pour out his Spirit upon us, in any humble, earnest effort we may make, looking towards that result; and yet knowing that we cannot expect to reach it without faithful preparation, and persistent effort upon our part, therefore,

Resolved, That we will at once seek this great blessing from our Father's hand. We will endeavor to prepare the way for it in our own hearts, and in the churches with which we are connected. Seeking first to remove obstacles, and then giving ourselves with singleness of purpose to such measures and efforts, as may seem most appropriate in our several fields.

Resolved, That as the great end of the gospel is only secured when men are born into the Kingdom of Christ, and made fit for heaven, that we will make the conversion and sanctification of souls, the great end of all our work.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the decision of our Presbyterian brethren to observe the 14th and 15th of November as a season of special humiliation and prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit upon their churches and congregations, and that we earnestly recommend to our own churches, to join in a similar effort at the same time.

J. W. RAY,
L. W. CHANEY,
S. W. POWELL.

Appendix I.

1874.

St. Cloud	1864,	2,	16,				U
St. Paul	1858,	6,	17,				C.
Sterling	1857,	8,	2,				N
Wabasha	1857,	2,	14,				E
Walnut Lake	1871,	8,	23,				E
Waseca	1868,	1,	16,				E
Wasioja	1858,	6,	6,				U
Worthington	1873,	5,	18,				.
Winona	1854,	12,	10,				H
Zumbrota	1857,	6,	28,				S

Whole Number of Churches, 86; Numb
this year—Total, 4,165; Males, 1,610; Fema
Contributions, $117,750 25.

*Formerly known as the "Vine Street Church."

Hampton, C. A.	1866,			[illegible]			
Hart, E. J.	1856,	1,	2,	Pastor			Cottage Grove
Hood, Geo. A.	1869,	9,	30,	Acting Pastor			Fergus Falls
Hunt, N. A.	1846,			"	"		Sterling
Johnson, George	1872,	11.	13,	"	"		Paynesville
Kellogg, S. H.	1857,	11,	10,	"	"		Swansea, Renville
Ketcham, Henry	1873,	10,	28,	Pastor			Austin
Kribs, Ludwic				Acting Pastor			Hawley
Landon, Geo. M.	1868,			"	"		Minneapolis, E. D.
Lathrop, A. C.	1843,	2,	24,	"	"		Glenwood
Merrill, E. W.	1864,	4,	5,	Without Charge			Cannon Falls
Morse, Alfred	1847,	6,	7,	Acting Pastor			Austin
Norton, W. W.	1858,			"	"		Alexandria
Ollerenshaw, Sam'l	1873,	4.	2,	"	"		Princeton
Peregrine, Philip	1861,	3,	10,	"	"		Judson

Pierce, N. H.	1861,			Without Charge	Minneapolis
Pike, A. J.	1859,	3,	9,	Acting Pastor	Sauk Center
Powell, S. W.	1872,			" "	Medford
Ray, J. W.	1858,	1,	28,	Pastor	Lake City
Rindell, Gilbert Jr.				Acting Pastor	St. Charles
Roe, A. D.	1867,	2,	5,	" "	Afton
Rogan, D. H.	1859,			" "	Anoka
Ruddock, C. A.	1861,	5,	29,	" "	Cannon Falls
Salter, C. C.	1859,	4,	11,	Pastor	Duluth
Simmons, H. C.	1872,			Acting Pastor	Marshall
Shedd, Chas.	1842,	3,	24,	Without Charge	Waseca
Sheldon, C. B.	1851,	10,	9,	Acting Pastor	Excelsior
Smith, O. M.	1863,	2,	25,	" "	Monticello
Snell, W. W.	1859,	10,	16,	" "	Rushford
Spaulding, Geo.	1848,			Without Charge	Marshall
Starr, E. C.	1871,	3,	30,	Acting Pastor	Waseca
Starr, O. A.	1871,	4,	6,	" "	Montevideo
Stearns, J. G. D.	1843,	5,	10,	" "	Clearwater
Stimson, H. A.	1870,	5,	25,	Pastor	Minneapolis
Strong, Jas. W. D. D.	1862,	9,	28,	Pres'nt Carleton College,	Northfield
Strong, J. C.	1846,	11,	16,	Witnout Charge	Silver Lake
Tenney, H. M.	1868,	10,	21,	Pastor	Winona
Terry, C. M.	1871,	11,	2,	Pastor	St. Paul
Tobey, J. F.	1873,	7,	17,	Acting Pastor	Brownsdale
Todd, J. D.	1860.	1,		Acting Pastor	Granite Falls
Towle, J. A.	1871,	4,	14,	Pastor	Northfield
Twichell, Royal	1842,	1,	12,	Without Charge	New Munich
Webber, J. S.	1872,	8,	13,		McCauleyville
Weld, Wm. M.	1852,	5,	14,	Acting Pastor	Marine Mills
Wicks, E. G.	1872,	10,	2,	" "	Wabasha
Willard, Henry	1858,	10,	20,	" "	Plainview
Willey, Anstin	1859,	5,	18,	Without Charge	Northfield
Williams, E. S.	1864,	6,	10,	Acting Pastor	Brainerd

Appendix I.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Wm. Cheney Treasurer Minnesota Home Missionary Society in account with American Home Missionary Society.

1873.			Dr.
Sept.	27.	To Cash of Congregational Church, Hamilton,	$ 11 61
"	"	" " " Claremont,	6 75
"	"	" " Woman's Cent Socy. of Minnesota,	126 64
"	30.	" " Plymouth Church, Minneapolis,	18 00
Oct.	4.	" " Womat's Cent Society,	11 05
"	28.	" " Plymouth Curch, Minneapolis,	14 34
Nov.	17.	" " Zumbrota Church,	50 00
Dec.	3.	" " Plymouth Church, Minneapolis,	22 27
"	30.	" " Cong'l Union Church, Austin,	35 35
"	31.	" " " Church Excelsior,	9 00
1874.			
Jan.	3.	To Cash of Plymouth Church, Minneapolis,	17 00
"	7.	" " " Anoka Church,	6 75
"	27.	" " " Plymouth Church Minneapolis,	16 88
Mar.	6.	" " " " " "	12 37
April	2.	" " " " " "	20 52
May	9.	" " " " " "	27 73
June	4.	" " " " " "	15 67
"	29.	" " " " " "	16 00
July	6.	" " " Excelsior Church,	17 00
"	8.	" " " Cong'l Union Church, Austin,	49 62
"	27.	" " " Plymouth Church Minneapolis,	10 00
Sept.	2.	" " " " " "	21 40
			$535 95

1873.			Cr.
Oct.	1.	By Draft to Treasurer A. H. M. Society,	$163 00
"	29.	" " " " " "	25 39
Dec.	8.	" " " " " "	72 27
Jan.	27.	" " " " " "	68 10
Mar.	11.	" " " " " "	29 25
April	3.	" " " " " "	20 52
June	1.	" " " " " "	27 73
"	29.	" " " " " "	15 67
July	27.	" " " " " "	92 62
Sept.	5.	" " " " " "	21 40
			$535 95

I have examined the above account and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

HARLAN W PAGE, Auditor.

Receipts of American Home Missionary Society from Minnesota, August. 1873—July 1874.

1873.	
August	$106 92
September,	131 34
October,	247 96
November,	90 69
December,	230 90
1874.	
January	192 55
February,	93 14
March,	98 78
April,	69 80
May	202 41
June	133 49
July	168 49
	$1,766 47

Appendix J.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT AMERICAN HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

I entered upon my work as Superintendent of Home Missions in the State, May 26, 1874. Since that date, I have traveled 4214 miles on the field; visited 34 of the churches (several of them twice) at an expense of $173.46½; have preached 34 sermons; given 6 addresses; written 689 letters; assisted at the Laying of the Corner Stone of the church in Granite Falls, June 18; organized two churches; one at Morris, Aug. 9; one at Hartland, Sept. 6. Other churches have been organized since the last Annual Conference as follows: Pilgrim, Minneapolis; Freeborn, Belgrade, Mountain Lake, and Walnut Station

When I came upon the ground, 20 fields, covering 36 points, were either unoccupied, or have become vacant, or opened as new fields since.

Three of these, Anoka, Rochester and Faribault, are self-supporting. All I have had to do with filling them has been advisory. To-day, if all the new men *stay* that are on their fields, and all that have been designated are accepted, Lansing, Saratoga, Paynesville and Detroit and vicinity are all that are left. This statement does not include Grove Lake, High Forest, Lenora, and Spring Valley, marked last year as unsupplied. The Master and the Missionaries, and the vacant fields have seemed to concentrate power on each point to secure its speedy occupancy. Lansing has a Union arrangement with other Evangelical churches, for the present, till separate services are called for. Paynesville, having fallen into debt, proposes to suspend separate services for a year. A small sum of money would enable them to resume. Saratoga fails to unite with St. Charles and Quincy in the support of preaching, seeing no way to

raise more than $50 toward it. Detroit has Congregational, Baptist and Methodist churches, with occasional Episcopal services, in a town of about 700 inhabitants! Yet the brethren there, and all along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, say the point must be held. I propose to hold it. The other fields named will be filled as soon as the right men are found to fill them. Freeborn and Hartland form a new field, thus releasing Bro. Drew for service every Sabbath at Albert Lea, and adding Manchester instead. While passing this point, I simply remark upon the long mooted question of the occupancy and erection of a church at Albert Lea, that, had that point been abandoned, our work in Freeborn County would have been at an end, to say nothing of the lasting dishonor with which we should have retired from the field; now Albert Lea, Freeborn and Hartland, have organized churches, and Manchester and Geneva bid fair to have two more soon. Reduced to its lowest terms, the equation puts a few hundred dollars and some hard work on one side; and five strong points, with Congregational honor established in Freeborn County, on the other. As the case stood when I came on the field, there was no alternative. The honor of Congregationalism stood pledged to see it through. It stands there to-day.

Three other new fields have been added to our list since I began my work, Elk River, Macaulayville and Breckenridge, (reaching also Fort Abercrombie) and Walnut Station. Others will be opened soon.

To a new comer from the East, this seems a peculiarly fruitful year in the matter of church erection. Minneapolis has three, one of them, St. Anthony, completed and paid for; Fergus Falls has another finished and paid for. Albert Lea has one nearly completed, Little Falls, Granite Falls, and Walnut Station are building.

About $17,800 have been drawn from the treasury of the American Home Missionary Society, and expended on this field. Of this, $1,766.47, $155,60 more than last year, have been contributed by the churches of the State. When our wealthier parishes are through with church building for themselves, we have no doubt that these figures will be changed.

As we have a Committee to report on the state of religion in the churches, I will only say, that so far as I have seen and heard, the gospel is plainly, and faithfully preached by the missionaries and other ministers, and cordially welcomed by the churches. We nevertheless *need* a powerful outpouring of the Spirit of God upon us.

To help me more thoroughly to sympathize with the brethren in their needs and trials, more justly to appreciate their labors and rejoice with them in their successes, I desire to call the attention of the missionaries to Article 10 of the Constitution of our State Society, respecting their Quarterly Reports.

To indicate my feelings as to the relation of our work to other similiar agencies, I propose, in no case, to enter a field whose spiritual wants are already met. And further, in communities having too many Evangelical

Churches, I am ready, rather than waste the Lords' money in trying to keep up so many churches, to advise, and, if possible, to bring about organic or any other honorable form of union. On one of our Home Missionary fields, in 1872, $1,425 missionary money, with about as much more raised on the ground, were expended to keep four ministers at work; where one good man, occupying a church already built, and now paid for, could have met the wants of that field completely.

Another point vital to the permanency and most rapid growth of all our churches, is the installation of pastors. An idea has taken root in some places that a pastor installed is a fixture whether wanted or not. That is not Congregationalism. A pastor is a fixture only so long as wanted. In many instances the relation of Acting Pastor has been permanent and happy. In others, as a matter of fact, it is an annual bid for criticism. The missionary does not know whether he is to stay or go. Let a church like a man well enough to install him, they would be much less likely to wish a change.

I shall be glad to see the day when our missionaries shall do as some men in the State have done this year, decline any overture that does not take the form of an actual call to settle as pastor. I am confident the work would in most cases be much more heartily and vigorously prosecuted.

As to plans of work for the future, I propose to hold all essential points already taken; make each of them as strong as possble, and *from* each, as a base, make other points. For this, as said in my circular, I must depend largely on the brethren. Judging from my experience thus far, I have no fears as to quantity and quality of spiritual reconnoitering followed by timely reports.

The work thus far has been pleasant beyond all expectation; less irksome, less vexatious, more like an ovation of cordiality, than the wearing tearing ordeal I anticipated.

L. H. COBB.

CONSTITUTION OF CONFERENCE.

ARTICLE 1. This Conference shall be called the "GENERAL CONGREGATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MINNESOTA."

ART. 2. This General Conference shall consist of all the Evangelical Congregational Churches of Minnesota and vicinity, which are willing to adopt its Constitution, Confession and By-Laws; each church being represented by its Pastor, or Stated Supply, and one Delegate; and also of Missionaries in the employ of the American Home Missionary Society, engaged in active duty in this State, but not in charge of churches which are members of this Conference.

ART. 3. Ordained ministers, members of any church in this Conference other than the Pastor or Stated Supply, shall be honorary members *ex officio* of the Conference; and other ordained ministers who may be present at the meetings of this body may be invited to sit as honorary members during the session then in progress, and honorary members shall have all the privileges of the Conference, except the right of voting.

ART. 4. All officers of Conference shall be elected by ballot and public nomination, except when otherwise ordered by special vote.

ART. 5. There shall be a Corresponding Secretary, who shall hold his office for three years, whose duty it shall be to conduct the correspondence of the Conference, and also to collect information, and at each meeting exhibit a report of the state of religion within the limits of this Conference.

ART. 6. A Recording Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Conference, who shall hold his office for three years.

ART. 7. A Statistical Secretary shall be chosen, to continue in office for three years.

ART. 8. A Treasurer and an Auditor shall be annually chosen.

ART. 9. The object of the General Conference shall be to promote intercourse and harmony among the churches embraced in the Conference, and to produce a more extensive co-operation in every good work.

AR 10. No ecclesiastical power or authority shall ever be assumed by the General Conference, or be delegated to it.

ART. 11. The Conference shall meet on the Second Thursday of October, at 7 o'clock P. M., to continue until Sabbath evening.

ART. 12. The Annual meeting of the Conference shall be opened by a sermon, from one appointed at a previous meeting.

ART. 13. At each meeting of the Conference, a Committee of Arrangements and Devotional Exercises, and a Business Committee, each consisting of three persons, shall be appointed for the succeeding meeting, and all subjects to be brought before the Conference shall be introduced through the Business Committee, or by special vote.

ART. 14. This Conference may interchange friendly correspondence with other religious bodies in the habit of such intercourse; and delegates from other bodies to this Conference shall be admitted as honorary members, to participate in the deliberations.

ART. 15. The public religious exercises shall be closed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

ART. 16. The Conference shall establish its own By-Laws and Regulations, subject to alterations at their future meetings.

ART. 17. The Constitution of this Confereence may be alteaed at an annual meeting of this body, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

BY-LAWS OF CONFERENCE.

1. At the appointed time for the assembling of the Conference, the Recording Secretary, or Pastor of the Church with which the Conference meets shall call the members to order. After prayer, a temporary Scribe shall be appointed to assist the Recording Secretary, when the certificates and delegates shall be presented, and the names of the members enrolled; after which a Moderator and Scribe (one or more) shall be elected.

2. In making the enrollment, slips of paper shall be furnished to every member, who shall write upon it his name and the church he represents, indicating whether he is a minister or delegate, and from these slips the Scribe shall make out the roll.

3. Committees shall be appointed to propose place and preachers for the next meeting, on resolutions, printing and finance.

4. The Constitution and Rules of the Conference shall then be read.

5. At each meeting of the Conference, a first and second preacher shall be appointed for the next meeting.

6. The roll shall be called at the close of the first session, and at least once each day subsequent during the sitting of the Conference.

7. Every church applying for admission to this Conference shall present, for examination, its Confession of Faith and Covenant, and the Conference shall take a formal vote on its reception.

8. After the place of the succeeding meeting is determined, the officers required by Articles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13 of the Constitution shall be elected.

9. Every motion, on being seconded, shall, if requested, be reduced to writing, and every motion intended to be incorporated in full in the minutes shall be presented in writing before it is acted on by the Conference.

10. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except for adjournment, amendment, postponement, commitment, or reference.

11. At each annual meeting of the Conference, a Visiting Committee of five members, not connected with the Board of Trustees shall be appointed to examine into the condition of Carleton College, and report at the next meeting.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called THE MINNESOTA HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ART. II. The General Congregational Conference, together with all members of the American Home Missionary Society residing within the State shall be the Society.

ART. III. The object of this Society shall be to co-operate with the American Home Missionary Society in diffusing the gospel; by aiding weak congregations within the State in the support of the ministry; by organiz ng churches wherever they are needed; by supplying communities destitute of preaching, and by doing the work of Christianization within other States and the Territories.

ART. IV. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor, one or more Superintendents, an Executive Committee of three in each Local Conference, and a Board of Directors.

ART. V. Those officers whose term of office and manner of election are not otherwise provided for, shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve for three years.

ART. VI. The Executive Committees shall be chosen annually by the Society, upon the nomination of the Local Conferences, and on being accepted by the American Home Missionary Society as its agency for the purpose, shall, in council and co-operation with the Superintendent, designate and recommend fields, missionaries and appropriations, both from the American Home Missionary Society and the American Congregational Union; shall care for the general missionary work within their respective limits; shall hold a meeting for conference at each gathering of the Local Conference; shall seek to secure young men for the ministry; shall use diligence to increase the contributions of the churches, and to hasten the day of self-support among the aided churches; and shall seek to secure such a system of harmonious co-operation with other denominations as shall prevent sectarian jealousy and needless expenditure. Each of the Executive Committees shall also make a written report to the Society at its annual meeting, of their action, specifying the condition of every aided church within their limits, and the general wants of their field.

ART. VII. The Board of Directors shall consist of the chairmen of the several executive committees and two members at large, to be chosen annually by the Society. They shall choose one of their number as Chairman and another as Secretary, who shall also be the Recording Secretary of the Society; shall hold a session in connection with every meeting of the General Conference, and also upon the call of their Chairman whenever any exigency may require; shall nominate, in case of vacancy, the Superintendents to the parent Society, which is to appoint and pay them; shall consider the apportionment of men and money, and methods of increasing the supply of both; shall make an annual report to the Society, and in their general oversight shall make to the parent Society such suggestions as they may deem wise. The Board shall also fill all vacancies that may occur, either in their own body or in the several executive committees.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall receive all money coming into the Society, and shall remit the same every month to the parent Society. He shall also make an annual report to the Society, not only of the money so transmitted, but of that which is acknowledged by the parent Society as coming directly to its treasury from this State.

ART. IX. The Superintendents, in council and co-operation with the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees, and under the instruction of the parent Society, shall give themselves to the work of securing ministers for missionary churches, transmitting and endorsing applications for aid, encouraging the beneficiary churches on to self support, organizing churches, preaching the Word in destitute communities and among the aided churches, and increasing the contributions to the State Society.

ART. X. The usual quarterly and annual reports of the missionaries to the parent Society shall be made in duplicate, and one copy sent to the Superintendent of their respective districts, for the information of the officers of the Society.

ART. XI. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of all the members present; provided the amendment shall have been proposed at the preceding annual meeting or is recommended by the Board of Directors.

CARLETON COLLEGE,

NORTHFIELD, MINN.

CARLETON COLLEGE is located at Northfield, Minn., about seventy-five miles north of the Iowa line, and forty miles south of St. Paul. Though not under ecclesiastical control, nor sectarian in its methods or influences, it is intended to be emphatically a *Christian College*. It offers its privileges to all alike, irrespective of race, nationality, or denominational preferences; and it aims at the standard of scholarship mantained by the older Colleges of New England. Its Faculty desire to provide an education *liberal* and *thorough*, that shall embrace moral culture as well as mental discipline, and secure a symmetrical Christian character.

All departments are open to students of either sex. Ladies reside with the lady-teachers, in a separate building, but both sexes meet in all general exercises, are instructed in the same classes, and may take the same degrees.

INSTRUCTORS.

Rev. JAMES W. STRONG, D. D.,
President, and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy.

HORACE GOODHUE, Jr., A. M.,
Prof. of the Greek Language and Literature, and Principal of the Preparatory Department.

WM. W. PAYNE, A. M.,
Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

Miss MARGARET J. EVANS, A. M.,
Preceptress, and Teacher of Modern Languages.

JOS. H. CHAMBERLAIN, A. B.,
Teacher of the Latin Language and Literature.

Mrs. MARY J. BOIES,
Matron, and Teacher of Calisthenics.

Miss SARAH J. CHRISTIE,
Teacher in the English Department.

DWIGHT C. RICE,
Teacher of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

A. E. BUNKER,
Teacher of Book-Keeping.

T. R. HAMLIN,
Teacher of Penmanship.

COURSES OF STUDY.

Four courses have been arranged, as follows:

The *English Course*, extending over four years, and provided for those unable to secure a thorough clasical education.

The *Preparatory Course*, designed to fit students for the regular collegiate studies, and covering three years.

The *Ladies' Course*, which unites the Latin and modern languages of the College Department with the Mathematics and general studies of the English Course, and occupies four years.

The *College Course*, which embraces the usual four years' curriculum of study.

Requisites of Admission.

To commence either the *English Course* or the *Preparatory Course*, only such advancement is required as will enable the student to pursure it with profit. The studies of the first term are Robinson's Higher Arithmetic, English Grammar, and Latin Grammar and Reader, or U. S. History. For admission to the *Ladies' Course* the first year's studies of the Preparatory Department are required. To enter the *College Department*, students are examined in the following named branches:

English—Grammar, Ancient and Modern Geography, United States History.

Mathematics—Arithmetic, Loomis' Algebra to Chapter xv., Geometry, six books.

Latin—Harkness's Latin Grammar, Harkness's Latin Composition, to Part III., Cæsar, two books; Cicero, six orations; Virgil, six books of the Æneid; Smaller History of Rome.

Greek—Crosby's Greek Grammar, (New Edition); Arnold's Greek Prose Composition, twenty sections; Xenophon's Anabasis, three books; Homer's Iliad, two books; Smaller History of Greece.

For full courses of study, reference is made to the Annual Catalogue.

EXPENSES.

Board in College Building, per week . .	$2 75	Use of Piano per term, one hour per day	2 00
Tuition—Higher English and Classics, per term of 13 weeks . . .	8 00	Room Rent, per term	3 00
" Common English, per term of 13 weeks	6 00	Incidentals, per term	1 00
" Instrumental Music, per lesson of one hour	1 00	Heating, in proportion to cost.	

The rooms in the Ladies' Hall are furnished with stoves, chairs, tables, washstand bureaus, mattresses, and bedsteads; and those of Willis Hall are supplied with the same, excepting Mattresses. *All other furniture must be procured by the occupant.*

A building containing unfurnished rooms for twelve young men, is devoted to those wishing to board themselves. Board can be obtained in the Institution at the price given above, or in private families at reasonable rates.

CALENDAR.

Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 1874, Fall term of 15 weeks begins.	Anniversary Exercises, June 28, and 29, 1875.
Vacation of two weeks.	Vacation of ten weeks.
Wednesday, Jan. 6th, 1875, Winter term of 12 weeks begins.	Examinations to enter College, June 26th, and Sept. 7th, 1875.
Vacation of one week.	
Wednesday, April 7th, 1875, Spring term of 12 weeks begins.	Fall term begins Wednesday, Sept. 8th, 1875.

Applications for rooms in the Ladies' Hall may be made to the Preceptress; for rooms in Willis Hall, to Prof. Goodhue; for board, to the Matron. These applications should be made as early as possible. As the classification is made upon the *first day* of the term, and work commenced *immediately*, it is very desirable that all students be present at the beginning of each term, and especially so at the commencement of a new year, when the regular classes in Greek, Latin and the Modern Languages are formed.

General correspondence may be directed to

JAS. W. STRONG, President

Northfield, Minnesota.

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GENERAL Conference of Minnesota.

AUTHOR
Minutes.

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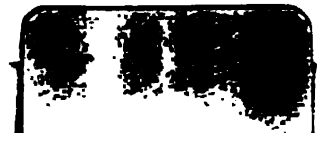
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